

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
TENNESSEE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 22, 2007

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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ATTENDEES:

For TECB Board: Mr. Randy Porter, Chair  
Mr. Ike Lowry, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Tom Beehan, Member  
Mr. Charles Bilbrey, Member  
Ms. Katrina Cobb, Member  
Ms. Carolann Mason, Member  
Mr. Freddie Rich, Member  
Mr. Steve Smith, Member  
Mr. Mike Taylor, Member  
For TECB Staff: Ms. Lynn Questell, Executive Director  
Mr. Robert McLeod, Accounting  
Manager  
Mr. Rex Hollaway, Director of  
Technical Services  
Ms. Carolyn E. Reed, TECB Attorney  
Ms. Monica Smith-Ashford, Director  
Government and External Affairs  
Ms. Vanessa D. Williams, Assistant to  
the Executive Director

Reported By:

Patricia W. Smith, RPR, CCR

## INDEX

Attachments Amended Public Meeting Agenda,  
documents provided to court reporter  
prior to start of meeting, and  
amended Report on Findings regarding  
Hamblen County ECD Rate Increase  
Extension

1                   (The aforementioned Board Meeting came  
2   on to be heard on Thursday, February 22, 2007, at  
3   500 James Robertson Parkway, Davy Crockett Tower,  
4   Room 160, beginning at approximately 9:35 a.m., when  
5   the following proceedings were had, to-wit:)

6  
7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: We'll call together  
8   the February 22nd, 2007, meeting of the Tennessee  
9   Emergency Communications Board.

10                  I'd like to say welcome to each one of  
11   you board members. It's good to see each and every one  
12   of you again.

13                  Let the record show that Mr. Steve  
14   Smith and Mr. Tom Beehan are on their way, stuck in  
15   traffic, and so hopefully they'll join us very shortly.  
16   But we do have a quorum. All the other members are  
17   present.

18                  And we have quite a lengthy agenda  
19   today, but we'll try to move through it as fast as  
20   possible, to get us out of here as early as we can.

21                  What I'd like to do on the -- on our  
22   agenda is kind of skip up one of the parts. We have  
23   one of our past employees, Mr. Don Johnson, that served  
24   us for many years, and Lynn has an award that we'd like  
25   to give Don.

1                   So, Don, where are you? Would you  
2                   come up, please.

3                   MS. QUESTELL: Don, I would like to  
4                   say that you have so earned this award. We miss you  
5                   every day. The contributions that you have made to 911  
6                   and to this board, there really aren't enough words to  
7                   say what you've done. But I hope this in a small way  
8                   will show how much we all appreciate everything that  
9                   you've done for us.

10   (Applause.)

11                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Don was a great  
12                   employee and a great addition to the staff here and  
13                   worked a lot of endless hours, especially in our  
14                   infancy when we were coming up as a board. And we're  
15                   really going to miss him. But, you know, we always  
16                   want to see folks better themselves and move on to  
17                   greener pastures and greater things if that's their  
18                   desire. And I think Don has done that. And we wish  
19                   him well.

20   Don, we'll definitely miss you. And  
21                   you come back and see us. Okay?

22   The next item on the agenda is the  
23                   report of the Executive Director.

24   Lynn.

25                   MS. QUESTELL: Thank you,

1 Mr. Chairman.

2 I'd like to note that the time is 9:36  
3 as we get started. And speaking of changes to the  
4 board, I would like to take this opportunity to  
5 introduce y'all to two of our newest members of the  
6 staff.

7 To take Don's place, we have Robert  
8 McLeod, who is our new auditor, who has prepared the  
9 rate increases for this meeting and is doing a great  
10 job.

11 And I would also like to introduce  
12 Monica Smith-Ashford, who is our new director of  
13 legislative and external affairs. She's taking Duple's  
14 place, and she has just hit the ground running. And we  
15 are so grateful that she's joined our staff. I stole  
16 her from the TRA, just like I did Carolyn.

17 So with that, I'd like to start our  
18 director's report.

19 First, the status of wireless carrier  
20 and voice-over-IP deployment. We really don't have any  
21 significant changes in carrier deployment since our  
22 last meeting. I'm going to list you the carriers that  
23 are offering Phase 2 service in their service areas in  
24 Tennessee. That would be Advantage, Alltel, Cingular,  
25 ClearTalk, Cricket, Eloqui -- which recently merged

1 with US Cellular -- Sprint, Nextel, T-Mobile, Triton,  
2 Verizon, and Yorkville -- which is now doing business  
3 as West Tennessee Networks.

4 As far as the Voice over IP, Vonage is  
5 continuing its efforts to deploy its Voice over IP  
6 offering in the twenty counties served by the Frontier  
7 selective router that's used for nonwireline calls.  
8 And it has not yet finalized its link to Frontier's  
9 selective router in Cookeville.

10 Most of the other counties served by  
11 BellSouth or Embarq now have connectivity between the  
12 Voice over IP provisioning centers and the PSAPs.

13 Just to report on the system  
14 integration between Cingular and AT&T, that was  
15 completed on or about October 31st. I'm very pleased  
16 to report to you that there have been no misroutes  
17 reported since our last meeting in October. That's a  
18 first for a while.

19 I also wanted to report on the Voice  
20 over IP and nonwireline service charge. If you will  
21 remember, last year we had the -- we were successful in  
22 getting the law changed so that there would be a 911  
23 service charge on not just wireless but any nonwireline  
24 technology that was capable of contacting 911. And  
25 staff sent out over 600 letters to nonwireline service

1 providers. We meshed lists with the Department of  
2 Revenue and with the FCC and came up with that. And  
3 they were sent out, and we estimate that we'll start  
4 receiving revenue remittances from that in March.

5                   Already the legislative session has  
6 become somewhat exciting for 911. There are seven  
7 bills that we count that have an impact on 911. We are  
8 behind two of those bills. One was sponsored by  
9 Senator Harper and Representative Jones. And that  
10 would increase the penalty for making false 911 calls  
11 in three specific situations.

12                   Right now to make a nonemergency call  
13 on 911 is a Class C misdemeanor. We would like to make  
14 these three situations a Class A misdemeanor, and I'll  
15 explain the difference in a sec.

16                   First, we want the heightened penalty  
17 for making repeated false 911 calls. We want the  
18 heightened penalty if the false 911 call causes a delay  
19 in a response. And we want the increased penalty if  
20 the false 911 call results in damage to person or  
21 property. And if that happens, we want restitution.

22                   Now, what a Class A misdemeanor does  
23 is it imposes a sentence of not greater than 11 months,  
24 29 days of incarceration and a fine not to exceed  
25 \$2,500.

1                   So we were told when we were  
2     researching this that misdemeanor -- people that are  
3     sentenced to misdemeanors tend to serve more time in  
4     many situations than if they're sentenced to felonies,  
5     so that's one of the reasons we went with this.

6                   The other bill that we sponsored,  
7     again by Senator Harper and Representative Ulysses  
8     Jones, would expand the membership of the board's  
9     technical committee to allow representation from more  
10    than just the wireless industry. We figured that since  
11    we had changed the law to expand to Voice over IP and  
12    other emerging technologies capable of contacting 911,  
13    that they should have a seat on the technical advisory  
14    committee too. So that's what this one is about.

15                  Now --

16                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Let the record show  
17    that Mr. Steve Smith has joined us now. Thank you.

18                  MS. QUESTELL: The rest of these bills  
19    were not filed by the board, and there's some  
20    interesting legislation. And this will be all provided  
21    in your summaries, so you'll have the senate bills and  
22    house bills. I'm just going to run down them real  
23    quickly.

24                  Senate Bill 1200 is sponsored by  
25    Senator Ophelia Ford and Representative Towns, and it



1 would increase the fine for making nonemergency calls  
2 from \$50 to \$250 for the first offense and \$500 for  
3 separate or subsequent offenses. And it earmarks the  
4 proceeds of these fines to 911 call centers in the city  
5 where the calls originated.

6 Senate Bill 1201, also sponsored by  
7 Senator Ophelia Ford and Representative Towns, would  
8 increase the fine for making nonemergency 911 calls  
9 from \$50 to \$500 and again earmarks the proceeds of the  
10 fines to 911 call centers in the city where the calls  
11 originated.

12 Senate Bill 1737, sponsored by Senator  
13 Ketron and Representative Fitzhugh, appears to allow  
14 the mayor of each -- well, let me just say this. It's  
15 very hard, the way this is drafted, to know exactly  
16 what it does. I'm giving you my best guess on this  
17 one.

18 It appears to allow the mayor of each  
19 municipality in an emergency communications district to  
20 be a member or designate a representative to sit in his  
21 place on emergency communications districts board of  
22 directors.

23 Senate Bill 1758, sponsored by Senator  
24 Kyle and Representative Rowe, would change the  
25 requirements for appointment to the Shelby County

1 Emergency Communications District Board of Directors.

2 Senate Bill 2002, which is sponsored  
3 by Senator Norris and Representative Turner, would  
4 authorize this board instead of the Chancery Court,  
5 after holding a contested case hearing within the  
6 service area of a district, to remove a member of an  
7 emergency communications board of directors upon the  
8 petition of either the board, a county or city  
9 governing body, if an ECD board member has three or  
10 more unexcused consecutive absences, refuses to carry  
11 out the provisions of the 911 law or an order of this  
12 board, or knowingly or wilfully neglects to perform the  
13 duties of office.

14 The way this is drafted, I'm not sure  
15 in the reference to the board being able to ask for  
16 this kind of a proceeding, whether that means this  
17 board or a local emergency communications board.  
18 That's just not clear the way it's drafted, so I'm not  
19 sure about that.

20 The last bill is Senate Bill 2229,  
21 sponsored by Senator Kyle and Representative Odom, and  
22 it would increase the members of this board to 11, by  
23 adding 2 more ECD representatives. It deletes the  
24 provision in Tennessee Code Annotated 7-86-314(a) which  
25 prohibits ECD board members from having more than three

1 consecutive unexcused absences, and it requires that  
2 this board complete its annual report by January 31st  
3 of each year.

4 I next want to talk about the status  
5 of the board's request for expansion of its budget.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do we want to --  
7 excuse me, Lynn. Do we want to talk about those bills?

8 I mean, the board can either support  
9 or not support bills. Do we want to do that before we  
10 get too further down, Lynn?

11 MS. QUESTELL: That might be really  
12 helpful to us.

13 CHAIRMAN PORTER: You heard the bills  
14 that were read off by Lynn.

15 And correct me, Lynn and Carolyn, if  
16 I'm wrong. But the board can either take a proactive  
17 stance, negative, or neutral.

18 Is that the way it kind of runs,  
19 Carolyn?

20 MS. REED: Yes.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. And we have  
22 done that in the past, and I guess I would open it up  
23 to the board. Do you want to do that on any of these  
24 bills? I guess we -- do we need to go down each one of  
25 them and decide how we want to do it?

1                   MS. REED: I think that would be a  
2     good idea -- excuse me.

3                   The first two that were sponsored by  
4     us, you-all have already voted on. So I think we're  
5     good on that. You voted for us to proceed with those.

6                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. So what's the  
7     next one, Lynn? Was it --

8                   MS. QUESTELL: Well, actually, the  
9     second two are somewhat the same. They're kind of --  
10    they were both filed by Senator Ford and Representative  
11    Towns, and they change the fine for making nonemergency  
12    911 calls -- the first one from \$50 to \$250 for the  
13    first offense and 500 for the second or subsequent  
14    offense. And the other bill, also by the same people,  
15    increases the fine to \$500. And they both earmarked  
16    the proceeds to go to the 911 call center in the city  
17    where the calls originated.

18                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: So those bills are a  
19    lot similar to what we're submitting -- what we  
20    submitted on trying to make the false calls have a  
21    higher --

22                  MS. QUESTELL: In sentiment, yes, they  
23    are. But what we're asking for is an increased fine  
24    for the three specific acts to up to \$2,500.

25                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do you think there

1 is a chance that we could work with those bill sponsors  
2 with our bills to try to maybe get them all into one  
3 bill? Is that a possibility, or not?

4 MS. QUESTELL: I think that that's a  
5 really good idea.

6 Monica, do you have an opinion on  
7 that?

8 MS. ASHFORD-SMITH: Yes, I think  
9 that's a wonderful idea to try to work with the  
10 sponsors of those bills to try to come up with an  
11 agreement and maybe have one bill that we're going  
12 to -- to move through the committee system.

13 I -- I would like to know from the  
14 board, right now the bill that we're proposing does not  
15 change the law as far as where the funds or the -- if  
16 there are any fees -- fees imposed. Our bill does not  
17 change the law with respect to fees. But those  
18 other -- Senate Bill 1200 and Senate Bill 1201 earmarks  
19 the fees from any fines to go to the district in which  
20 the nonemergency call was made.

21 MS. REED: No, it doesn't say the  
22 district. It says the 911 call center in the city.

23 MS. ASHFORD-SMITH: In the city.

24 MS. REED: And most districts are not  
25 affiliated with cities; they're counties. So I think

1       that -- that the Ford bills are very unclear in that  
2       perspective.

3                       MS. ASHFORD-SMITH:   Okay.   And so I  
4       don't know if we would need any direction from the  
5       board as far as . . .

6                       CHAIRMAN PORTER:   I guess what I was  
7       thinking -- and if you feel different, tell me -- that  
8       we allow staff to work with the sponsors of those other  
9       bills and see if they can come up with a consensus that  
10      maybe we can just push one bill forward instead of  
11      four.   Is that -- is that agreeable with --

12                      Let the record show that the board is  
13      agreeing with that.

14                      And so, Lynn, could y'all work --  
15      could y'all guys work with the sponsors and see if we  
16      can maybe narrow it down to just one we could run  
17      through the committee and try to get out?

18                      MS. QUESTELL:   We will do that.

19                      CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Okay.

20                      MS. QUESTELL:   Thank you.

21                      CHAIRMAN PORTER:   What was the next  
22      one now?   Let's see.

23                      MS. QUESTELL:   The next bill is Senate  
24      Bill 1737, which appears to allow the mayor of each  
25      municipality in an emergency communications district to

1 be a member or designate a representative to sit on the  
2 ECD board of directors.

3 CHAIRMAN PORTER: So basically what we  
4 think that would do is, is that would -- we would start  
5 legislating then how the local ECDs would be made up,  
6 instead of the local counties and folks picking how  
7 they wanted their local ECDs made up. Is that right?

8 MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir, that's  
9 correct.

10 MS. REED: And it also is very unclear  
11 because, as Lynn mentioned when she first, you know,  
12 read about it, that the way it's written, another  
13 interpretation is that all the municipal mayors would  
14 have to vote on all the appointments. It's just --  
15 it's very unclear the way that it's worded. We can't  
16 tell what it does exactly.

17 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. So what's the  
18 will of the board on this bill?

19 MS. COBB: Not to support it, in my  
20 opinion.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do you want to make  
22 that in a motion?

23 MS. COBB: I will be glad to.

24 I move that we have our folks look to  
25 their folks and us verbally not support on -- go on the

1 record not to support this bill. And we also should  
2 ask that it be made more clear so that we can  
3 understand it and everyone can understand it.

4 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Do I have a  
5 second?

6 MR. TAYLOR: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion by Katrina  
8 and a second by Mike that we oppose this bill and for  
9 staff to work with the sponsors of that bill to try to  
10 make it clear as to what they're actually -- try to  
11 find out what they're actually asking in the bill,  
12 since it's unclear as to what some of that may be.

13 We have a motion and second. Now  
14 discussion.

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, all in  
17 favor say "aye."

18 (Board members respond

19 "aye.")

20 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
21 sign.

22 (No response.)

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried. And  
24 that was Senate Bill 1737?

25 MS. QUESTELL: 7.



1                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Okay.   What's the  
2   next one, Lynn?

3                   MS. QUESTELL:   The next bill is Senate  
4   Bill 1758, which would change the requirements for  
5   appointment of the Shelby County Emergency  
6   Communications District Board of Directors.

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   So that's basically  
8   the local bill that would affect --

9                   MS. QUESTELL:   Local bill.

10                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:   -- that board only?

11                  MS. REED:   Yes.   And there's already  
12   an existing provision in the statute that specifies how  
13   the Shelby County district will be appointed.   And this  
14   just changes that a little bit.   So it -- it really  
15   only affects Shelby County.

16                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:   And -- okay.   So do  
17   we know from the Shelby County folks if this is a good  
18   bill or a bad bill, or has anybody said --

19                  MS. REED:   We do not -- we do not yet.

20                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:   So what's the will  
21   of the board on this bill?   Do you want to take a  
22   neutral stance?   Or do you want to oppose it?   Or --

23                  MS. COBB:   I think until we're  
24   contacted by Shelby County saying they need our support  
25   in pushing it along or making it stop, I think we

1       should probably take the neutral --

2                       CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Neutral stance?  Do  
3       you want to put that in the form of a motion, Katrina?

4                       MS. COBB:  Okay.  I think that this  
5       board should take a neutral stance, unless we are  
6       contacted and asked to do otherwise by the Shelby  
7       County district.

8                       CHAIRMAN PORTER:  I have a motion.  Do  
9       I have a second?

10                      MR. LOWRY:  Second.

11                      CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Motion by  
12       Ms. Katrina and second by Mr. Ike, and that is Senate  
13       Bill 1758, and that we take a neutral stance unless  
14       otherwise contacted by the Shelby County folks.

15                      MS. REED:  Can -- can I ask for a  
16       clarification?  If we're contacted by the Shelby County  
17       folks, would you want us to do whatever it is that they  
18       ask us to do?  In other words, I'm afraid that they'll  
19       contact us and we --

20                      CHAIRMAN PORTER:  In between board  
21       meetings?

22                      MS. REED:  -- we won't have another  
23       board meeting and be able to bring it before you again.

24                      MS. COBB:  I just think it has to be  
25       brought before us before we move one way or the other.

1                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Okay.   Neutral  
2   stance and then it has to be brought back before us if  
3   we want to make any changes.  
4                   Any discussion?  
5                   (No response.)  
6                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Hearing none, all in  
7   favor say "aye."  
8                   (Board members respond  
9                   "aye.")  
10                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:   All opposed, like  
11   sign.  
12                  (No response.)  
13                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Motion carried.  
14                  The next one, Lynn.  
15                  MS. QUESTELL:   The next bill is Senate  
16   Bill 2002, which is sponsored by Senator Norris and  
17   Representative Turner.   It would authorize the  
18   Emergency Communications Board instead of the Chancery  
19   Court, after a contested case hearing within the  
20   service area of the district, to remove a member of the  
21   ECD board of directors upon petition of either the  
22   board, a county or city or governing body -- or a  
23   county or city governing body if an ECD board member  
24   has three or more unexcused consecutive absences,  
25   refuses to carry out the provisions of the 911 law or

1 an order of the TECB, or knowingly or wilfully neglects  
2 to perform the duties of the office.

3 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Let the record show  
4 Mr. Tom Beehan is now present with us, and that makes  
5 all members present. Traffic was bad this morning, I  
6 know.

7 MR. BEEHAN: It was awful.

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: It was.

9 Right now, Tom, we're on -- we're  
10 going down through the list of Senate and House bills,  
11 and the board is voting whether to support them or  
12 oppose them or just be neutral on them. We've got  
13 about seven of them.

14 What's the will of the board on Senate  
15 Bill 2002?

16 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, I move we  
17 oppose.

18 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I have a motion that  
19 we oppose that bill. Do I have a second?

20 MR. RICH: Second.

21 COURT REPORTER: Seconded by Mr. Rich?

22 MR. RICH: Yes.

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Yes, Freddie.

24 That we oppose Senate Bill 2002.

25 Is there discussion?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, all in  
3 favor say "aye."

4 (Board members respond  
5 "aye.")

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
7 sign.

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.  
10 The next bill, Lynn.

11 MS. QUESTELL: The last bill is Senate  
12 Bill 2229, which is sponsored by Senator Kyle and  
13 Representative Odom. It would increase the members of  
14 the Emergency Communications Board to 11, by adding 2  
15 more ECD representatives. It deletes the provision in  
16 Tenn. Code Annotated 7-86-314(a) that prohibits ECD  
17 board members from having more than three consecutive  
18 unexcused absences, and it requires that the board  
19 complete its annual report by January 31st of every  
20 year.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: That's basically  
22 a --

23 MS. REED: Do you want to -- excuse  
24 me.

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: -- caption bill,

1       isn't it?

2                   MS. REED:   Yeah, I was going to say,  
3       Do you want to give them a little more background about  
4       this bill?

5                   MS. QUESTELL:   Why don't you go ahead.

6                   MS. REED:   It's come to our attention  
7       that this was sponsored by, most likely, the governor's  
8       office, and it's really a caption bill.  And we're not  
9       sure whether it's going to move forward or not or  
10      what's going to happen with it but that it's from the  
11      governor's office, for whatever that's worth.

12                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:   What's the will of  
13      the board on Senate Bill 2229?

14                  MS. COBB:   How does the staff feel  
15      about the last part, about TECB completing the annual  
16      audit by January 31st?  Is that any problem?

17                  MS. QUESTELL:   We would do our best to  
18      comply with the law, as we do with every law.

19                  MR. BEEHAN:   What -- yeah, what's  
20      driving this?  I mean, it's a caption bill, but it's  
21      adding people.  Have any of you thought --

22                  MS. REED:   Monica can probably speak  
23      to this more than I can.  But our understanding is that  
24      with a caption bill often the text that's under that  
25      caption is not necessarily ever intended to go into

1 place. It's just text to maintain -- the caption is  
2 what was important, so that if down the road in the  
3 session they need to do legislation about 911 that they  
4 have a mechanism to do that.

5 MS. QUESTELL: And this is a caption  
6 that extends to all of Part 3 of Chapter -- of Title 7,  
7 Chapter 86. So it -- it's --

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: It basically opens  
9 up the 911 law is what it does.

10 MS. QUESTELL: Right.

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I kind of like the  
12 adage, "It's so big you can drive a truck through it."  
13 So, you know, it's kind of -- with caption bills they  
14 could sit there and nothing ever happen. Or if  
15 something happens during the legislative period that  
16 they want to change, it opens it up then to put -- to  
17 put it in. I think for those of y'all that have been  
18 in county government and city government for any length  
19 of time, you've seen these quite often.

20 MR. LOWRY: Do we have any feel for  
21 what the governor's -- I assume he put the bill in or  
22 asked for it to be put in -- what the concern is?

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I think -- I think  
24 there's a lot of rumors that are going around, and I'll  
25 throw out one is consolidation, maybe the board having

1 more authority when it comes to consolidation. And  
2 that's just a rumor. That's -- that's no -- that's not  
3 based on any fact. It could be something totally  
4 different than that.

5 But if you remember back from the  
6 budget hearings, there was a lot of talk about  
7 consolidation. And -- and then there's been some talk  
8 maybe that the board -- this board does not have enough  
9 power when it comes to consolidating 911 districts. So  
10 that's -- that's kind of the rumor. It could be  
11 something totally different. I just throw that out for  
12 you.

13 MS. REED: And -- and my understanding  
14 is that they do literally hundreds of these every year,  
15 and most of them don't ever come to fruition and no law  
16 is ever passed by the caption bill. So it could have  
17 just been erring, you know, in an excess of caution to  
18 have this caption bill in place in case anything was  
19 necessary.

20 MR. BILBREY: Randy.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Yes.

22 MR. BILBREY: It really doesn't do any  
23 good to take any action whatsoever on a caption bill.  
24 So I would say put it in the category of no action.

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: No action.



1 MR. BILBREY: Period.

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Do you want  
3 to make that in a motion?

4 MR. BILBREY: Well, just -- let's just  
5 don't take any action, period. Drop it or whatever.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

7 MR. BILBREY: I make a motion that we  
8 just drop it.

9 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

10 MR. BILBREY: No action.

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do we have a second?

12 MS. COBB: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I'll take Katrina on  
14 that one.

15 The motion is that we take no action  
16 on the caption bill Senate Bill 2229.

17 Any discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, all in  
20 favor say "aye."

21 (Board members respond

22 "aye.")

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
24 sign.

25 (No response.)

1                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

2                   Is that all the bills, Lynn?

3                   MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir.

4                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Back to your  
5 update.

6                   MS. QUESTELL: I'd like to report on  
7 the status of the board's request to expand its budget  
8 to fund some -- the new programs that it has  
9 established.

10                   This Tuesday, on February 20th, the  
11 governor's budget was released. And we had requested  
12 an expansion of the budget to fund the NG911 IP program  
13 and to continue to fund the \$15 million equipment  
14 program and the \$14 million operations program. The  
15 NG911 program and the \$15 million equipment program  
16 were included in the budget expansion. The budget did  
17 not include the \$14 million operational funding  
18 program, which means that the board's plans to send out  
19 operations funding in February will -- will not happen.

20                   But let me say this. Passing the  
21 budget is a process, and the budget can be amended.  
22 It's often amended. There's no promises about the  
23 success of us getting an amendment, but we will  
24 continue to advocate for an expansion to accommodate  
25 the operations funding program. And we have talked to

1 the administration, and we'll -- I'll just leave it at  
2 that.

3 I'd like to report on the status of  
4 the \$150,000 essential equipment reimbursement program.  
5 As I just stated, that will continue. We do have the  
6 expansion of the budget for that.

7 As of February 1st, 2007, 61 districts  
8 have either been paid or are in the process of being  
9 reimbursed for requests totalling 11,666,000 under this  
10 program. Ten districts have requested a maximum amount  
11 of 150,000. Ten more have less than 20,000 remaining  
12 on their allocations. Thirty-nine districts have not  
13 initiated any action towards requesting any of the  
14 funding available to them.

15 I would next like to report on our  
16 Next Generation 911 project. After our meeting, our  
17 last meeting, staff held a meeting of representatives  
18 of other state agencies that might have an interest in  
19 our NG911 project. We did this because we really  
20 wanted to make sure that other governmental entities  
21 that might have an interest to participate in some way  
22 or have information or input on this would know what  
23 was happening, and we wanted to avoid the whole right  
24 hand not knowing what the left hand was doing kind of  
25 thing.

1                   And I'm really gratified that we had  
2   representatives from over 13 agencies come and listen  
3   to Rex and me give a little talk about the NG911  
4   project and people from the -- from Homeland Security  
5   and TEMA and TDOT, TBI, TRA. It was -- it was  
6   well attended, and we appreciated that.

7                   And since then, staff has met with  
8   Kimball and Associates, and we are developing the scope  
9   of services for our RFP.

10                  And in addition, we have met with  
11   representatives of the Office of Information Resources,  
12   because they're -- what we understand -- we are still  
13   talking with them about this -- but we understand that  
14   they are also planning to issue an RFP to establish a  
15   secure IP network for the state, that it would be -- I  
16   think that the NCIC might run on that.

17                  And depending on our negotiations, I  
18   mean, if we -- we could manage the 911 part of it but  
19   ride on their infrastructure, that that might serve  
20   everybody in the best possible way to conserve  
21   resources but make sure that everything that we need  
22   happens. So we're in negotiations about that.

23                  Okay. The harassing, noninitialized  
24   911 calls, we are continuing to work on our request to  
25   the FCC to clarify its order on harassing 911 calls

1 from noninitialized phones. We are setting up meetings  
2 with the FCC, maybe the commissioners, but certainly  
3 with the staff, to talk about this when we go to the  
4 911 Goes to Washington in March.

5 And we really want to thank all the  
6 districts that participated in this survey. Florida  
7 and Michigan both did a survey, too, but ours was  
8 extremely well-done, and we got good results. We  
9 basically have -- we're still kind of tabulating. But,  
10 you know, the boxes that copy paper come in? We have  
11 over two boxes of that full of these reports, which  
12 means like probably over 8,000 reports. If that  
13 doesn't get the FCC's attention that this is a big  
14 problem, I don't know what will.

15 So thank you-all so much for this  
16 help. I mean, if we had known it was such a problem,  
17 we would have in any way possible tried to act sooner.  
18 We are trying very hard to get this going.

19 TEMA activities. Rex has been deeply  
20 involved in acting as the board's liaison with TEMA,  
21 the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency. He works as  
22 a liaison with the wireless and VoIP carriers and with  
23 the districts. And he has really become, I think, an  
24 asset not just to us, as always, but to TEMA as well.

25 TEMA is planning a major earthquake

1 disaster exercise June 19th through 21st in West  
2 Tennessee, and it's going to focus heavily on emergency  
3 communications. The simulated epicenter is supposed to  
4 be the New Madrid area. And over twenty West Tennessee  
5 counties will participate in the exercise.

6 I want to commend both Rex and Jim  
7 Barnes, our accounting manager. Jim is acting as the  
8 alternate emergency services coordinator with TEMA, and  
9 they've been going through extensive training to  
10 support TEMA and our ECDs in the event of a disaster.

11 I also wanted to kind of report on the  
12 budget hearings, the governor's budget hearings that  
13 occurred early last December. At the budget hearing  
14 the governor shared some important insights about 911.  
15 Among these are that we have a great success story in  
16 Tennessee with our 911 system. He was very supportive  
17 of the progress that we have made.

18 And I made sure that he understood  
19 that we were the third state in the country to deploy  
20 Phase 2 service, and I think he really appreciated  
21 that.

22 The governor emphasized that both  
23 cities and counties have responsibilities to the PSAPs  
24 that serve them. And he stated that cities and  
25 counties need to step up to a portion of the funding

1 for local 911 districts.

2 And he also did, as you-all know,  
3 raise the issue about consolidation, about -- what he  
4 was saying, I think, was that there should be  
5 consideration about whether districts are operating --  
6 that are operating with only one dispatcher and are  
7 struggling financially he said should be consolidated  
8 somewhere. He's saying that should be thought about.  
9 And he stated that it should be considered whether the  
10 right answer is consolidation rather than spending more  
11 funds to staff another position in certain  
12 circumstances.

13 Okay. We have action items.

14 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Are your  
15 action items the same as ours? Do you want to read  
16 through them?

17 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. I'm sorry.

18 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

19 MS. QUESTELL: This board meeting has  
20 presented a bit of a challenge because the state's  
21 computers have been kind of off and on. They thought  
22 that they would be fixing our e-mail system, and we've  
23 basically had computer crashes for over a week now.

24 CHAIRMAN PORTER: If you tried to send  
25 an e-mail to the state and got them kicked back, it

1       wasn't your fault; it's been the state's networks.

2                       MS. QUESTELL:   And we are also trying  
3       to get in place a new copy machine, which has presented  
4       challenges to staff, too.   So I will be reading some of  
5       these action items, and my apologies to the board.

6                       Okay.   All right.   I'm going to just  
7       start here.   Action item -- the first action item is to  
8       consider clarifying the application of Policy Number  
9       34, which is financial support to promote consolidation  
10      of ECDs.   And we want to clarify how that might apply  
11      to consolidation of more than two ECDs.   Right now the  
12      policy only addresses two ECDs.

13                      Sorry about the confusion.

14                      CHAIRMAN PORTER:   That's okay.

15                      MS. QUESTELL:   So -- so the action  
16      item is consider clarifying application of Policy  
17      Number 34 to consolidation of more than two ECDs.

18                      What I'm asking for is for the board  
19      to consider what to do if more than two ECDs wanted to  
20      consolidate.

21                      Right now the policy could be  
22      construed as saying with two ECDs consolidating you've  
23      got 150,000 and 150,000 that the board would contribute  
24      to assist with the expenses of consolidation.   So it  
25      follows to us that if more than two wanted to



1     consolidate you could add an additional 150,000 for  
2     every district that chose to participate in a  
3     consolidation.

4                     We would not recommend that you add  
5     \$300,000 for every district that chose to jump in and  
6     consolidate, because of the NG911 project and the other  
7     projects that we're hoping to get in place and the  
8     equipment funding. We don't want to get -- right now  
9     we've got our budget to a place where we wouldn't want  
10    to take such a big hit in the hope that other districts  
11    would want to consolidate.

12                    CHAIRMAN PORTER: You've heard the  
13    staff's recommendation that they want to amend Policy  
14    Number 34 to address the situation where two ECDs  
15    consolidate and that we would be providing an  
16    additional \$150,000 on each -- to each ECD. What's the  
17    will of the board?

18                    MR. LOWRY: What's the maximum we  
19    would do there if they did?

20                    CHAIRMAN PORTER: It would be 150,000  
21    per ECD. So I guess if ten consolidated, it would be  
22    1.5 million. Right, Lynn?

23                    MS. QUESTELL: Yes.

24                    CHAIRMAN PORTER: The chances of that  
25    ever happening is pretty slim, so I don't see that as

1 being an issue.

2 MR. LOWRY: No, I don't think that's  
3 going to be a problem.

4 MR. BEEHAN: I would move,  
5 Mr. Chairman, that we adopt the recommendation of the  
6 board on Policy 34.

7 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Mr. Beehan makes a  
8 motion that we adopt the request from staff on Policy  
9 Number 34. Do I have a second?

10 MR. SMITH: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Second by Mr. Smith.  
12 Any discussion?

13 MR. SMITH: Let me ask, Mr. Chairman,  
14 in essence, we're just saying each additional district  
15 that would choose to consolidate, we would support that  
16 with 150,000 --

17 CHAIRMAN PORTER: \$150,000, right.

18 MS. QUESTELL: With up to 150,000.

19 The policy already has some standards about --  
20 essentially, it's the same processes with the equipment  
21 funding. The expenditures would need to be run through  
22 the board and that sort of thing, so that we're being  
23 careful. So it would be up to 150,000.

24 MS. REED: But right now if two do it,  
25 they get -- if two districts consolidate, they get up

1 to 300. And now if three districts consolidate, the  
2 three together get up to 450,000.

3 MR. SMITH: You're just not going back  
4 and rewarding for the original 150 --

5 CHAIRMAN PORTER: It's kind of  
6 clarifying a little bit. Yeah, it was a little bit  
7 unclear in that policy. It looked like we were giving  
8 300,000 every time another one added on, and it's only  
9 150.

10 MR. BILBREY: If we should get over  
11 three, for whatever reason, should we not bring it back  
12 to the board and let's look at it and see what the  
13 situation is? If we go four or five or whatever,  
14 that's -- not meaning that we won't do it, but let's  
15 just look at it.

16 I can't understand why we would go,  
17 you know, that many. But let's just make sure of what  
18 we're doing if we get to that point. That's all I'm  
19 asking.

20 CHAIRMAN PORTER: If the districts  
21 consolidate, they would have to come back to us anyway;  
22 right?

23 MS. REED: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN PORTER: So, Charlie --

25 MR. BILBREY: Do they have to come

1 back?

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I was asking that as  
3 a question. Do they?

4 MR. BILBREY: I didn't think they did.

5 MS. REED: I don't think that legally  
6 they have to come back.

7 MR. BILBREY: No.

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

9 MS. REED: But I think that -- that  
10 procedurally they -- you know, to get any of this  
11 funding, there's a process that they have to go  
12 through, an approval process they have to go through  
13 with us. So I think that we would be very involved  
14 in -- in that aspect of the consolidation.

15 MR. BILBREY: But I'd still like if we  
16 went above three to bring it back and let's just talk  
17 about it and look at it.

18 CHAIRMAN PORTER: So do you want to  
19 amend that motion to --

20 MR. BILBREY: Yes.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: -- to amend the  
22 policy of --

23 MR. BILBREY: Yeah, if it goes above  
24 three --

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Above three?

1                   MR. BILBREY:  -- let's bring it back  
2     to the board and consider it.

3                   MR. BEEHAN:  I would accept that.

4                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  That is okay, Tom?

5                   MR. BEEHAN:  I think that makes --  
6     that makes a lot of sense.

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  That's okay with  
8     you, Steve?

9                   MR. SMITH:  Yes.

10                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Okay.  So we have  
11     an -- we have an amendment then to that on Policy 34,  
12     as staff recommended, except we put a maximum of three.  
13     If it goes above three, they've got to come back to  
14     this board before --

15                  MR. BILBREY:  And that doesn't say we  
16     won't do it.

17                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Right.

18                  MR. BILBREY:  But let's just --

19                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:  We want to look at  
20     it first.

21                  MR. BEEHAN:  Just for clarification,  
22     how many -- mostly they're counties that would do this.  
23     There's not very many situations -- you'd probably be  
24     having to cross counties to do this.

25                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Actually, we've only

1 ever had one consolidation, and that was  
2 Overton/Pickett, that's ever took place.

3 MS. QUESTELL: Let me clarify that  
4 this policy applies to districts. It doesn't apply to  
5 counties. It's districts that choose to consolidate  
6 with other districts. The board does not have a policy  
7 on consolidation with counties or cities.

8 MR. BEEHAN: But most of them are in  
9 counties is what I'm saying. That's where it's gonna  
10 happen.

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Yeah. I mean, we  
12 may have one or two every now and then. But it's -- so  
13 far in eleven years we've only had one so far.

14 Other discussion?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Everybody understand  
17 the amended -- the way we've got it amended now?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. All in favor  
20 say "aye."

21 (Board members respond

22 "aye.")

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
24 sign.

25 (No response.)

1                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

2                   Next item, Lynn, is --

3                   MS. QUESTELL: This is a housekeeping  
4 item.

5                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

6                   MS. QUESTELL: Consider extending for  
7 six months the expiration date and review period for  
8 rates expiring on June 30th, 2007.

9                   As y'all recall, due to the TACIR  
10 study, about 24 districts had rates that were set to  
11 expire on June 30th, 2006. And rather than try to  
12 consider them all at one meeting or something like  
13 that, y'all extended these rates until June 30th, 2007,  
14 with the understanding that staff would prepare them  
15 and we would hear them over the process of this year.  
16 And we will meet that deadline. After today, we will  
17 have reviewed 15 of the rates, and we have expectation  
18 that the remaining 9 would be reviewed by June 30th.

19                   But there are 8 additional districts  
20 that have rates expiring on June 30th, 2007. And we  
21 really question the feasibility of being able to have  
22 the board review the rates of those 7 plus the 9  
23 remaining, so that we would have 17 done between now  
24 and June 30th. I just don't think that's feasible.

25                   And so what we're requesting is that

1 the board extend the rates of the eight ECDs with rates  
2 expiring on June 30th, 2007, for six additional months,  
3 until December 30th, 2007. And we will get those all  
4 reviewed by December 31st, 2007.

5 And the ECDs with rates expiring on  
6 June 30th, 2007, are Cumberland, Johnson, Roane,  
7 Humphries, Rhea, Union, Washington, and Wayne.

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. You've heard  
9 the recommendation from staff. And if the board would  
10 indulge me, and I know a lot of y'all are involved,  
11 too, and see a lot of stuff that's going on with the  
12 board on a day-to-day basis.

13 I have a concern that I'd like for  
14 y'all to think about. You know, we lost Don, and  
15 Robert has come in and replaced him. And we lost  
16 Duple. You know, the staff has just been, well,  
17 basically covered up with all that they have going on.

18 And I -- I -- I worry that -- I worry  
19 are we spending so much time reviewing these rate  
20 increase requests every year or two years, or whatever,  
21 that we're letting some of the other stuff that -- I  
22 don't know if you say it's more important or not. But  
23 I worry about -- I worry about districts that have --  
24 that have audit findings that should be looked at. I  
25 think that's a big thing. I worry about the



1     noninitialized phone calls that the 911 centers are  
2     getting inundated with. I worry about legislation and  
3     bills. I worry about budgets. I worry about all  
4     this -- all these other things that we've got going on.

5                     And I -- I'm just concerned that are  
6     we -- are we benefiting ourselves any by every two  
7     years having these districts fill out all this  
8     paperwork again and come in to this board, when every  
9     year we get -- we get their budget, we get their audit,  
10    we get a lot of this information that, basically, most  
11    of it already each year that the staff could be  
12    reviewing. Are we spending our time, I guess, wisely  
13    by requiring this when, you know, we look at these rate  
14    requests and we haven't turned one back yet?

15                    In my mind, with the shape that a lot  
16    of the districts are in and needing more money, I don't  
17    see us, you know, turning too many back, if we turn  
18    any.

19                    I just wonder is that just me with all  
20    this, or does somebody else --

21                    MR. RICH: Well, Randy, I don't think  
22    so. I think you're voicing what some of the members  
23    who have been with you for several years have been --  
24    have had in the back of our mind all the time, that  
25    this is possibly a waste of time for staff. Because I

1 don't think we're ever going to have any district that  
2 comes in and says, "Well, I want to back up and not  
3 have a rate extension for the next few years." I think  
4 we've really hurt ourself with this three-year thing  
5 rolling around. I think we need to take a -- either  
6 have staff survey it and see what their recommendations  
7 are, or we need to take some action ourselves.

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do other board  
9 members have feelings?

10 MR. BEEHAN: Randy, is that a  
11 legislative issue, or is it a board policy?

12 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Board policy.

13 MS. QUESTELL: What the legislature  
14 actually has in place is the districts have the power  
15 to reduce their rates if they choose to, if they  
16 determine that the rates are too high.

17 MR. LOWRY: Yeah, the district or the  
18 county can.

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I don't know about  
20 the county.

21 MR. LOWRY: Can't the county reduce  
22 the rate?

23 MS. QUESTELL: I don't believe the  
24 county can, but that's not --

25 MR. LOWRY: I think so.

1 MS. QUESTELL: But you may be right.

2 I'm sorry. I'm not sure.

3 MS. REED: In terms of this board's  
4 requirements -- and I'll look at the county requirement  
5 in a minute -- but speaking to your question about the  
6 board requirements, what -- the legislation gives this  
7 board the power to raise the service charge for  
8 individual local ECDs provided that the district meets  
9 financial and operational criteria established by the  
10 board in consultation with the Comptroller of the  
11 Treasury. And that's all the legislation requires.

12 So I think that when we go through  
13 that analysis when we first approve the rate increase,  
14 we're covering that requirement.

15 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I guess -- I guess  
16 my thought was is that these guys are seeing the  
17 budgets and audits every year, and they know the  
18 districts that -- that are having problems, and they  
19 know the ones that have been raised -- that if they see  
20 as they're going through their review and they look and  
21 say, oh wow, now, wait a minute. This -- this district  
22 had a rate increase three years ago and now they've  
23 built up \$2.5 million sitting in reserves. Then the  
24 staff would bring that district to us -- to the board,  
25 and then we could have a review on it.

1                   But if they're looking through them  
2     and they don't see any problems with them, I'm just --  
3     I just felt like that there's a lot of other stuff,  
4     especially when we start this NG911 thing, that this is  
5     just going to be -- I'm not sure the staff is going to  
6     be able to keep up and still do 40 or 50 rate increase  
7     requests plus all the other stuff that they do. And I  
8     was -- I'm concerned that we might let some other stuff  
9     that'll take a second seat --

10                   MR. BILBREY: Can I --

11                   MS. REED: Could -- I'm sorry.

12                   MR. BILBREY: Can I make a suggestion?

13                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Sure.

14                   MR. BILBREY: Since this just came up  
15     and none of us haven't really thought about it or dug  
16     into it, let's have the entire staff to go back and  
17     review all of this and come back next time and make a  
18     recommendation, and review it thoroughly relative to  
19     the law and the finance -- financial situation and all  
20     that type of thing as to how they could do it and what  
21     they could do to have a foolproof situation where they  
22     can make recommendations or whatever for whatever  
23     period of time that's required. Let's let them look at  
24     it in detail, not doing something quickly.

25                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: I didn't expect

1     action today. I just wanted y'all to start thinking  
2     about, you know, this is -- this is a big deal.

3                   MR. BILBREY: And we can all think  
4     about it, to be sure about what we want to do about it  
5     here in the meantime too. But let them --

6                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do you want to make  
7     that in a motion?

8                   MR. BILBREY: Yes, I make that into a  
9     motion.

10                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

11                  MR. BEEHAN: I'll second.

12                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: So the motion by  
13     Charles and a second by Tom that staff go back and  
14     study this between now and the next board meeting,  
15     bring us back a recommendation as to how that they  
16     think that they could make it work, and research  
17     everything and make sure we're not violating any -- any  
18     laws or anything that we shouldn't be.

19                  MS. REED: Yes. And also just for  
20     you-all to be thinking about in the meantime and in  
21     response to Mr. Lowry's question, it is just the board  
22     of directors of the local ECDs that can lower a service  
23     charge if they find that they're having an excess of  
24     revenues. It's not the county. It's Section 7-86-112.

25                  MR. LOWRY: Okay. Go ahead.

1                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  If you've got a  
2     question, we can -- we can look at that.

3                   MR. BEEHAN:  Randy, when they -- when  
4     the staff does this, too, if you could check with the  
5     constituent groups or somehow out -- you know, the  
6     people that have to --

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Check with the  
8     911 --

9                   MR. BEEHAN:  -- deal with it, I think  
10    they probably would be very supportive.  But just to  
11    make sure that there's nothing we're not missing.

12                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Any  
13    other discussion?

14                  MR. BEEHAN:  I can't imagine they  
15    would want to do more paperwork.

16                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Well, it's -- when  
17    you start putting together this review report, they  
18    have to spend a lot of time on that and make a trip to  
19    Nashville and so forth and it's just --

20                  MR. BEEHAN:  Just check to see --

21                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Yeah, oh, I agree.  
22    I think it's a good -- it's a good point.

23                  MR. RICH:  Yeah, I think the board  
24    members also it would be good if we -- to be available  
25    for any questions they have before they make the

1 recommendations.

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Other discussion?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Hearing none,  
5 all in favor say "aye."

6 (Board members respond  
7 "aye.")

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
9 sign.

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

12 That's good. Thanks.

13 We still need to go back, though,  
14 and -- and extend these group -- until we can meet and  
15 decide what we're going to do, at least extend them so  
16 they don't have to be worrying about trying to get  
17 these things done before the next board meeting.

18 MR. TAYLOR: Do we have a motion,  
19 Mr. Chairman?

20 CHAIRMAN PORTER: No, we don't.

21 MR. TAYLOR: I so move.

22 MR. SMITH: I'll second the motion.

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: We have a motion by  
24 Mr. Taylor and a second by Mr. Smith that we extend  
25 those --

1                   Was there eight of them, Lynn?

2                   MS. QUESTELL: Yes.

3                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Eight of them --  
4   until December -- the ones that were coming up for  
5   June 30, 2007, to December 31st, 2007.

6                   MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir.

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Any discussion?

8                               (No response.)

9                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, all in  
10   favor say "aye."

11                               (Board members respond

12                               "aye.")

13                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
14   sign.

15                               (No response.)

16                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

17                   Next item.

18                   MS. QUESTELL: Before I move on to the  
19   next item, I really would like to thank the board for  
20   being mindful of the stress on staff. We appreciate  
21   that very much.

22                   The next item is to consider  
23   authorizing a commendation to Duple Travillion in  
24   appreciation for his years of faithful service on  
25   behalf of 911. His work as our legislative liaison was



1       tremendously helpful, and he lobbied for some very  
2       important bills that have made 911 in Tennessee a  
3       national leader. And staff would ask you to please  
4       authorize us to get him a plaque.

5                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: You've heard the  
6       request of staff.

7                   MS. COBB: I so move.

8                   MS. MASON: Second.

9                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: That we authorize  
10      staff to get Duple a plaque.

11                   Any discussion?

12                   (No response.)

13                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: All in favor say  
14      "aye."

15                   (Board members respond

16                   "aye.")

17                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
18      sign.

19                   (No response.)

20                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

21                   Any other action items, Lynn?

22                   MS. QUESTELL: No, sir.

23                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: All right. We'll  
24      move on to our main agenda then. The next item is  
25      consider status of Polk County ECD as a financially

1       distressed district.

2                       MS. QUESTELL:   Polk County, could --  
3       is there a representative from Polk County here?

4                       CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Thank you.  
5       Appreciate it.

6                       Make sure you talk into the  
7       microphone, Hon, so we can hear you.   Would you state  
8       your name for the record?

9                       MS. BRAMLETT:   Theda Bramlett.   Theda  
10       Bramlett.   I am a board member.

11                      MS. QUESTELL:   Polk County ECD was  
12       deemed financially distressed pursuant to 7-86-304(d)  
13       during the April 20th, 2006, board meeting.   And at  
14       that time it was noted that the primary reason for its  
15       status as a financially distressed district was simply  
16       the methodology that its accountants had used to  
17       calculate its depreciation; that it wasn't really about  
18       the operations, per se.

19                      Polk's rates remain at 65 cents for  
20       residential lines and \$2 for business lines.   And Polk  
21       was the first district that the board deemed  
22       financially distressed where the board did not raise  
23       their rates, which I think is recognition of the  
24       situation.

25                      The board's Policy 16 states that

1 districts deemed financially distressed remain subject  
2 to the board's supervision for a period of not less  
3 than two years of positive cash flow. During the  
4 deliberations on Policy 16, the director and the board  
5 used the term "positive cash flow" as meaning in the  
6 black or a positive cash balance.

7                   During the April 2006 meeting when  
8 they were deemed financially distressed, it was  
9 reported that Polk County already had one year of  
10 positive cash flow at that time. So it was already  
11 halfway through -- there were delays that were not --  
12 we were not able to get them in early on. And so by  
13 the time the board deemed them financially distressed,  
14 they had already had a year of positive cash flow.

15                   And we just received their annual  
16 audit which shows a second consecutive year of being in  
17 the black. They have a positive cash balance in the  
18 bank. And because of that, it is recommended that the  
19 board deem Polk County Emergency Communications  
20 District no longer financially distressed and no longer  
21 under the board's supervision and evaluation.

22                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: You've heard the  
23 staff's recommendation. What's the will of the board?

24                   MR. LOWRY: I move we accept the --  
25 put them back in the black and move forward.

1 MS. COBB: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Whose second was  
3 that? Motion by Mr. Lowry, second by Ms. Cobb, that we  
4 rule on Polk County as being not financially distressed  
5 any further.

6 Is there discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Did you have  
9 anything you wanted to say?

10 MS. BRAMLETT: No thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: It sounds like y'all  
12 have done a good job to come back out and -- and  
13 congratulations to your board in what you've been able  
14 to do.

15 MS. BRAMLETT: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing no  
17 discussion, all in favor say "aye."

18 (Board members respond

19 "aye.")

20 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
21 sign.

22 (No response.)

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

24 The next item on the agenda is  
25 consider status of Tipton County ECD.

1                   Lynn, do you want to start with this?

2                   MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir. If y'all  
3 would please come forward.

4                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Each one of you get  
5 a microphone, if you would, and state --

6                   MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman.

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Yes.

8                   MR. TAYLOR: Could I introduce our  
9 visitors from Tipton County?

10                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Sure. Be glad for  
11 you to.

12                  MR. TAYLOR: If you want to go first,  
13 Lynn, with -- with your report.

14                  MS. QUESTELL: Okay, I will.

15                  MR. TAYLOR: And then --

16                  MS. QUESTELL: Well, we're delighted  
17 that y'all are here. Thank you.

18                  MS. SPEAKMAN: Thank you for having  
19 us.

20                  MS. QUESTELL: The media has been  
21 covering events in Tipton County closely. And in  
22 addition, when I was giving my speech at the TACIR  
23 meeting in December, Senator Norris inquired about the  
24 situation, and I told him that we would have a status  
25 report on the agenda, and that's -- so I have done so.

1                   The Tipton County board of directors  
2   has elected Mr. Sneed to act as its chairman, and so we  
3   invited Mr. Sneed to come and report on the current  
4   status of Tipton County ECD. Welcome.

5                   MS. SPEAKMAN: Thank you.

6                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Mike, would you like  
7   to introduce --

8                   MR. TAYLOR: Okay. Our visitors are  
9   Mr. James Lamont Sneed, a personal friend I've known  
10   for many, many years in Tipton County. He comes from  
11   one of the most prominent families in Tipton County.  
12   They are the biggest farmers, and Tipton County has a  
13   lot of farmers and big farms. He's a commissioner  
14   serving his second term. He's a member of the  
15   Tennessee County Commissioners Association Board of  
16   Directors, also the Tennessee County Service  
17   Association Board of Directors. He is in human  
18   resources at FedEx. The stock's doing good. Keep it  
19   up. I count his family as friends. I've known them a  
20   long time. And I am proud to see him taking my old  
21   chair on the board.

22                   The lady sitting next to him is a very  
23   mean lady. Her name is Valerie Speakman. She is a  
24   super attorney, and she kept me out of trouble for many  
25   years on the board. And I love her to death, but her

1 husband won't turn her loose.

2 Welcome both of you.

3 MS. SPEAKMAN: Thank you.

4 MR. SNEED: Thank you.

5 MS. SPEAKMAN: Kind words.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do you have anything  
7 you would like to say, either one of you?

8 MR. SNEED: Well, thank you all for  
9 being here. And as Mike alluded to, again, we go way  
10 back in terms of our friendship, and I would just like  
11 to say that those will be some tough shoes to fill. So  
12 I appreciate the opportunity for being here.

13 As you mentioned, Lynn, concerning the  
14 status of our 911 board, at our February 12th  
15 legislative meeting, Jeff Huffman, our executive,  
16 appointed our permanent members to finish out our  
17 board, and we actually increased our board membership  
18 from seven to nine permanent members.

19 And we met on February the 20th, our  
20 first 911 board meeting where all the members were  
21 present. And we do have a great representation at this  
22 time. They're people from the community. And I'm very  
23 excited in working with them. As I stated to them at  
24 the board meeting, this will be a learning experience  
25 for all of us. But in terms of communication and

1 coming together to talk about those things, that we can  
2 get through anything. So I'm very proud and excited  
3 for that.

4 We have some major initiatives going  
5 on within the 911 board on our dispatch. We're going  
6 through a major renovation at this time, and we're  
7 upgrading from three consoles to five consoles. And  
8 that is to just continue to improve our link between  
9 the 911 dispatch and all of our emergency responders.  
10 So that's something that we're very proud of, and we  
11 should be through with that renovation within the next  
12 two weeks.

13 We did have training on Monday and  
14 Tuesday for the first consoles that did come on board,  
15 from the agencies and the vendors that are working with  
16 us in terms of that.

17 At the board meeting I did ask the --  
18 we do have two chief -- chief of police officers on our  
19 board, and we also have representation from one of our  
20 fire departments there. And I just wanted to get  
21 information from them as to how has the communication  
22 been, how has things been going as we've been going  
23 through this renovation.

24 And they all came back and said that  
25 they have seen no -- no, you know, problems whatsoever



1 as we've gone through this renovation. And everything  
2 has been good in terms of the communication between the  
3 agencies, to make sure that as we go through this  
4 renovation that, again, everything -- the entire county  
5 in terms of response is still there at 100 percent.

6 As it relates to some other things  
7 that we have going on, we are in the process -- we have  
8 posted for a new director for the 911 communications  
9 board. We have an interim director at this time, and  
10 she's done an excellent job. So we will be forthcoming  
11 to get that in place, and that's something we're  
12 looking forward to.

13 At our Monday -- or Tuesday meeting  
14 that we had, we did elect a personnel committee. And  
15 that personnel committee will be responsible for the  
16 interview and putting in place of that new director  
17 position. So we're excited about that.

18 And in terms of just the dispatchers  
19 that we have, we have a total, you know, salary or a  
20 pool of 15 dispatchers; however, at this time we are 3  
21 dispatchers short. And we will be making those  
22 decisions in hiring and putting them in place within  
23 the next 30 days. We feel that that will be up and  
24 running in terms of that. So we're excited about that.

25 And we also talked about at our

1 Tuesday meeting concerning just having a handbook as  
2 far as policies and procedures for the employees to  
3 have in place. So that personnel committee will also  
4 be responsible and putting in place to make sure that  
5 we do have policies and procedures for our employees,  
6 to ensure that everybody is aware of what their  
7 responsibilities and duties are.

8 So we're very excited about moving  
9 forward. We're very excited about the fact that we --  
10 we have a permanent board now in place and we can move  
11 forward about the business of the county.

12 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Anything that you  
13 would like to add?

14 MS. SPEAKMAN: No, sir. Thank you  
15 very much. I'm just here for support for our new  
16 chairman.

17 CHAIRMAN PORTER: He's got some big  
18 shoes to fill, as he said; he sure does.

19 MS. SPEAKMAN: Absolutely, yes, sir,  
20 he does.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: We were -- as you  
22 know, with all the media coverage that was coming out  
23 of Tipton County, of course, the board -- anytime we  
24 see that type of media coverage, we're concerned about  
25 what's going on. And we felt that it would be good

1       just to have you come and give us an update as to what  
2       was going on in Tipton County.

3                       And it sounds like things are starting  
4       to calm down and -- and are able to get back to  
5       business. Does that summarize it pretty well?

6                       MR. SNEED: Absolutely. And I would  
7       like to make mention also I've had the opportunity to  
8       speak with Lynn on several occasions, and she has  
9       offered assistance from her department to come in and  
10      to actually give us some standard operating procedural  
11      training that can assist all of us so at least we'd  
12      kind of know where we stand and how we need to go about  
13      the business of the emergency 911 for protocol. So I  
14      really appreciate her for all of her willingness to do  
15      that. So it's just a matter now of just setting up the  
16      time for that to take place where all the board members  
17      can be present and we can get that taken care of.

18                      MS. QUESTELL: Thank you very much.

19                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: I'm glad she worked  
20      out. Just don't be offering her no jobs at FedEx. We  
21      don't want that.

22                      MR. TAYLOR: You know, that's where  
23      Duple went.

24                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: One, but that's it.  
25      That's the limit.

1 Any questions of the Tipton County  
2 folks?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Thank you. We  
5 appreciate y'all coming and giving us an update.

6 MR. SNEED: Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN PORTER: The next item on the  
8 agenda is consider status of consolidation discussions  
9 in LaFollette and Campbell County, which is a  
10 financially distressed district.

11 Lynn.

12 MS. QUESTELL: Is there a  
13 representative from --

14 (Persons approach  
15 microphones.)

16 MS. QUESTELL: As a preliminary  
17 matter, I would like to note that there has been a  
18 change to the agenda. Yesterday, Spring Hill withdrew  
19 its request to create a new emergency communications  
20 district within the Williamson and Maury County  
21 emergency communications district. Their city  
22 administrator conveyed to me that after they read the  
23 responses of Williamson and Maury County emergency  
24 communications district, showing that the creation of a  
25 new district would have a negative impact on Williamson

1 and Maury, they decided that they just wanted to  
2 withdraw; that they did not want -- they said they had  
3 always enjoyed a good working relationship with both  
4 districts, and it was their desire to have that  
5 relationship continue.

6 So Williamson won't be here -- I mean,  
7 so Spring Hill will not be here. That item will be  
8 taken off the agenda.

9 As far as LaFollette -- turning to  
10 LaFollette, I want to just give a little bit of  
11 background here.

12 Last fall -- I mean, last summer  
13 LaFollette appeared before this board to seek a rate  
14 increase. And at that time the board pressed -- gently  
15 pressed LaFollette to discuss the issue of  
16 consolidation with Campbell County Emergency  
17 Communications District.

18 During that hearing there were some  
19 facts that were brought out that are of concern.  
20 LaFollette split out of Campbell County in 1996, and  
21 the split was authorized through a citywide referendum.

22 Campbell County was deemed financially  
23 distressed in 2001. Campbell County has been  
24 financially distressed longer than any other emergency  
25 communications district in the history of emergency

1       communications districts. The PSAPs of both LaFollette  
2       district and the Campbell County emergency  
3       communications district are within five blocks of each  
4       other. They are both located across the street from  
5       railroad tracks that run through town. If there was a  
6       problem, like a chemical spill or something on that  
7       railroad track, the possibility that both -- the  
8       functionality of both PSAPs would be affected is  
9       definitely there -- affected by a single incident.

10               LaFollette ECD, the last time I was  
11       there, had a single dispatching position and lacked the  
12       space to add additional dispatchers.

13               The record from the last -- the June  
14       meeting showed that on occasion the single dispatcher  
15       in the LaFollette ECD is expected to greet individuals  
16       who enter the lobby of the LaFollette police station.  
17       And it is to be remembered that at the June meeting the  
18       Campbell County Emergency Communications District  
19       presented a resolution that it adopted expressing its  
20       willingness to enter into mediation with LaFollette on  
21       the consolidation issue.

22               In January, I wrote to LaFollette's  
23       new ECD chairman, Mr. Byrd, and asked if the board had  
24       reconsidered its decision on mediation with Campbell  
25       County ECD and, if not, could he please share with me

1 the reasoning for the decision and explain how that  
2 decision maintains or advances wireline and wireless  
3 E911 service for the citizens of LaFollette in light of  
4 the problems that were listed just a few minutes ago  
5 that I just listed.

6 His response -- he's here to respond  
7 verbally, but the gist of his response was that, in  
8 good part, that LaFollette ECD had unanimously voted  
9 not to mediate or discuss the matter with Campbell  
10 County.

11 Now, this situation -- you probably  
12 are wondering why I keep bringing this up, but this is  
13 a situation that is of real concern to me.

14 The law is clear that the board has  
15 the responsibility to promote statewide, uniform  
16 emergency communications service and to make the most  
17 of the financial resources it has available.

18 The law also makes it clear that this  
19 board has serious obligations to financially distressed  
20 districts. Campbell County Emergency Communications  
21 District has been financially distressed, as I said,  
22 longer than any other district in Tennessee history.

23 Now, unlike other cases of financial  
24 distress that we've seen, this is not a situation where  
25 Campbell County simply doesn't have the resources to

1 support 911. The resources are there. But they're not  
2 being maximized because there is duplication of two  
3 separate districts operating two separate PSAPs. And  
4 this is not a situation where a city has split off and  
5 created its own district and all the districts are  
6 operating in an optimum way. Campbell County has been  
7 financially distressed longer than any other emergency  
8 communications district. And LaFollette is in the  
9 middle of Campbell County.

10 LaFollette, while not financially  
11 distressed, did come in here for a rate increase. And  
12 it is not a model 911 center. It operates with one  
13 position. The dispatcher is asked to perform duties  
14 other than just dispatching. There does not appear to  
15 be room for additional dispatchers in the PSAP, and  
16 it's too close to the railroad tracks. We all know the  
17 expense associated with equipping a 911 center, not to  
18 mention personnel dispatching costs.

19 Currently, LaFollette and Campbell  
20 County are duplicating resources and expenses and  
21 neither is operating in an optimum way. And I'm just  
22 questioning how this best serves the citizens of the  
23 city and the county.

24 Now, the law tells the board that it  
25 is to encourage -- that's the word used in the law --



1 consolidation of emergency communications operations --  
2 I'm quoting here -- in order to provide the best  
3 possible technology and service to all areas of the  
4 state in the most economical and efficient manner  
5 possible. And in cases of financial distress the law  
6 is even more specific about the desirability of  
7 consolidation, and it even empowers the board to  
8 address this issue.

9                   The law empowers this board to  
10 withhold wireless funds to a district if the board,  
11 quote, deems that the district is not taking sufficient  
12 action or acting in good faith to establish, maintain,  
13 or advance wireless and wireline E911 service for the  
14 citizens of an emergency communications district.

15                   And I have to refer back to the  
16 comments that the governor made during the budget  
17 hearing. He made it clear that he expects 911  
18 resources to be optimized and for consolidation to be  
19 considered.

20                   Given these circumstances, I believe  
21 that it is incumbent on this board to ask the  
22 board of directors of both LaFollette and Campbell  
23 County ECD what we can do to encourage a more efficient  
24 use of the resources available for that region.

25                   And, Mr. Byrd, I would like to give

1       you the opportunity to respond to this.

2                       CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Could we get both  
3       y'all's names on the record first.  I'm sorry.  I  
4       should have done that in the beginning.

5                       MR. WIDENER:   Jeff Widener.

6                       CHAIRMAN PORTER:   And what's your  
7       position with --

8                       MR. WIDENER:   911 director.

9                       CHAIRMAN PORTER:   911 director.  Okay.

10                      MR. BYRD:   Gary Byrd, and I'm the  
11       chairman of the board.

12                      CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Chairman of the  
13       board.  Okay.  You've got both of them?  Okay.

14                      Go ahead now, Mr. Byrd.  I'm sorry.  
15       Would you speak into the microphone real close, so we  
16       can all hear you.

17                      MR. BYRD:   To address some of the  
18       stuff, like I said, we're not distressed; the city of  
19       LaFollette is not.  We have no problems.  We -- you  
20       talked about the one dispatcher.  There's over --  
21       around a thousand calls come in a month.  We do not  
22       have no problems.

23                      I also serve as fire chief.  And we --  
24       the way we've got it set up, it works real well.  We  
25       just don't have no problems.

1                   The thing about the railroad tracks,  
2   I'd say railroads runs through every city in the state  
3   of Tennessee. And if something happens, we -- we can  
4   address that. I've seen a 911 center right next to an  
5   interstate where a truck could turn over and do the  
6   same thing, you know. We're about three quarters of a  
7   mile from a railroad track, the city is. The county  
8   911 is just a couple hundred feet. But, like I say, I  
9   don't see no problem in that.

10                  And the citizens of LaFollette are  
11   satisfied with our service. The mayor and the counsel  
12   is satisfied with us. We just did an upgrade to our  
13   PSAP. We have generators in place. We've just been --  
14   we've worked hard, and we've kept costs down. And as I  
15   say, we're not distressed. And everything works well.

16                  And I don't think, personally,  
17   combining will solve the Campbell County problem. I  
18   just don't think it will.

19                  And that's about all I've got to say,  
20   if anybody wants to ask me anything else.

21                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Tom, a question?

22                  MR. BEEHAN: Well, I've just got a  
23   comment. I wasn't here at the last meeting, but I do  
24   represent cities. And I do believe this is a bit of a  
25   stretch for us to try to make them consolidate using

1        fines. I really have a problem with that. I think  
2        they ought to want to do it because it's a need that  
3        they perceive.

4                    And I think we're stepping -- that  
5        this recommendation, in my opinion, steps over the line  
6        as far as saying we won't give you your funds. The  
7        cities have different issues than counties, and it  
8        varies from community to community. But we deal with  
9        this a lot in our county. And I just -- I just have a  
10       real problem with this. It sounds like the county has  
11       got a problem and we're trying to ask the city to fix  
12       it. And -- and I just -- it doesn't work well when you  
13       try to force it. You're talking about a --

14                   I don't know the politics of it, but  
15        you've got people in relationships here that -- that  
16        are going. And I just don't have a -- I don't have a  
17        good feel for doing this. I don't -- you know, the  
18        governor can say it is an ideal situation to  
19        consolidate these. But until you get people in a local  
20        community working together, if you can't enforce it and  
21        you try to withhold money, I think you're setting a  
22        very, very wrong precedent here. And that's -- that's  
23        just my comments, and I probably will say more as we go  
24        on, but --

25                   MS. QUESTELL: May I respond?

1 MR. BEEHAN: Sure.

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Sure.

3 MS. QUESTELL: I did not recommend  
4 that -- that funds be withheld. I simply quoted the  
5 law that says funds could be withheld. I --

6 MR. BEEHAN: Once you put it in  
7 writing --

8 MS. QUESTELL: All I'm really -- I'm  
9 just simply quoting the law. But what -- they'll never  
10 make any progress if they don't talk. That's all I'm  
11 asking is please talk, and I think that it's up to this  
12 board to encourage that. The law says "encourage  
13 consolidation." You can't encourage consolidation if  
14 people won't even sit down face-to-face and talk about  
15 it. I mean, the North Koreans are talking.

16 MR. BEEHAN: I understand that, Lynn,  
17 but I'm coming from the city's side. Okay? And  
18 from -- and I'm saying once you put something like that  
19 in writing, even though it's stating the law, it's  
20 giving ammunition that says, here's one way you can  
21 make it happen. And maybe that wasn't the intent. But  
22 when you see that in writing, it says, here's what you  
23 can do. And I just -- I hate for state government to  
24 start forcing local governments to try to work together  
25 when they're not ready to. And I think what you do is

1       you just -- you can tend to create more of a problem.

2                       Now, we had a great situation in --  
3       what was the county where they did mediate? Remember  
4       that?

5                       MS. QUESTELL: Yeah, it was Mountain  
6       City.

7                       MR. BEEHAN: Yeah, there was -- there  
8       was -- there was some reason to do that. And they --  
9       they -- they saw the reason. But you've got one side  
10      here saying things are going fine. And for cities to  
11      fix counties' problems is just really tough, in my  
12      opinion. So that's --

13                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: Let me throw one  
14      thing out, though, that we may be forgetting, Tom, is  
15      that when LaFollette pulled out and created its own ECD  
16      it actually created the problem of Campbell County  
17      being a financially distressed district. If they  
18      hadn't -- if that had not happened, we wouldn't even be  
19      here today.

20                      MR. BEEHAN: I understand, but they  
21      did it legally and --

22                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: Oh, I'm not saying  
23      they didn't. I don't disagree with that. They did a  
24      referendum.

25                      But I think if -- you know, if the

1 county folks had had a chance to vote on whether they  
2 let them -- would let it happen or not, you know, it  
3 probably would be a different story.

4 MR. BEEHAN: But we can't go fix that  
5 from here.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Right.

7 MR. BEEHAN: From Nashville. We can't  
8 fix those kind of -- in my opinion, we can't fix those  
9 relationships.

10 MS. REED: Can I mention one thing?

11 To me, this comes down to the question  
12 of whether the citizens of that region are getting  
13 sufficient 911 service.

14 While someone may live within the city  
15 limits of LaFollette, chances are high that they will  
16 be driving in the county limits at some point and may  
17 need that 911 service.

18 So the question becomes, "Are the  
19 citizens of LaFollette truly getting the best 911  
20 service that that region could get when one of the  
21 districts is financially distressed?"

22 And you're right -- I mean, you're  
23 absolutely right that's it's not the city's role to fix  
24 the county's problem. I don't think anyone is looking  
25 at that.

1                   The question is, "Can't they at least  
2   sit down and talk about how to fix the regional  
3   issues?"

4                   MR. BEEHAN: I think that would be  
5   wonderful. I think that is ideal. But it's coming  
6   across to me, as I read this and hear this, that we're  
7   trying to force that to happen instead of encouraging  
8   it. But that's just my opinion. And I -- and  
9   that's -- encouragement and enforcing are two different  
10   issues. And I deal with this locally a lot. I dealt  
11   with it yesterday in the county. And it's -- it's --  
12   we need to be talking, building relationships. So  
13   that's --

14                  MS. QUESTELL: May I just say one  
15   thing? If I sounded like I was forcing instead of  
16   encouraging, I apologize. Because I was trying to  
17   encourage.

18                  MR. BEEHAN: Lynn, there's no question  
19   about your -- how you operate. I mean, you really do  
20   care about what's going on. So there's -- there's  
21   never a question about that.

22                  MS. QUESTELL: Thank you.

23                  MR. BEEHAN: Never.

24                  But I'm just saying from sitting on  
25   the city's side, I saw some -- I have some concerns,



1     which I've just voiced.  Because we -- we struggle with  
2     these issues locally all the time.  E911, we're doing a  
3     court thing now.  I mean, every city and county has  
4     some of these issues.

5                   MS. QUESTELL:  I think I may be a  
6     little bit passionate about this, because of the --  
7     because of the TACIR situation, where this time last  
8     year we were required to form a committee and talk  
9     about the 911 funding.  And I was -- I looked up the  
10    law to see whether I had to actually do that, and I  
11    actually had to.  And so I embraced the law, and we  
12    embraced that process.  And it really changed my  
13    thinking and I think everybody else's thinking to sit  
14    down together with people that -- I mean, we put -- the  
15    board put people on that committee that were totally in  
16    opposition to where we were coming from.  And sitting  
17    down together and --

18                  MR. BEEHAN:  I couldn't agree with you  
19    more.

20                  MS. QUESTELL:  It changed my vision,  
21    and we came up with a really great idea because of  
22    that.

23                  All I'm really trying to do here,  
24    honestly, is to -- to create a dialogue.  That -- that  
25    is my goal here, to make people talk.  I guess -- there

1       you go -- "make." But I really --

2                       MR. BEEHAN: Encourage.

3                       MS. QUESTELL: Encourage people to  
4       talk.

5                       MR. BEEHAN: Encourage people to talk.

6                       CHAIRMAN PORTER: Let me throw out  
7       something that -- you know, in being in 911 for 27  
8       years now, one thing that -- that is -- that bothers me  
9       and I think that we'll probably address this as a board  
10      in the future -- a near-future meeting. You know, when  
11      you have a dispatch that only has one dispatcher on  
12      duty at a time, you know -- I know LaFollette's small.  
13      I've been there. I saw your system. I saw Campbell  
14      County's system. I worry about that one dispatcher  
15      that's sitting there that when he gets two calls at the  
16      same time what happens. I worry about him if he has a  
17      heart attack or he gets sick or what happens.

18                      And -- and I guess my thing was is  
19      that when you've got a city and a county sitting there  
20      that -- that really in the end could -- could really  
21      benefit each other, you know, by, you know, if they had  
22      their -- the dispatch center in the same room -- if  
23      nothing else, if you both were in the same room, where  
24      that you had two or three dispatchers on duty at a  
25      time, so that second call got answered immediately and

1       so forth and -- and I'm not saying that -- I'm not, you  
2       know, for trying to force you or anything like that  
3       right now. I guess --

4                       And I think Lynn's intention was just  
5       to encourage y'all. Would you not just sit down and  
6       talk and -- and just have a -- have a couple or three  
7       meetings or something with the other board and just say  
8       is there any ways here that we could work together to  
9       make things better not just for Campbell County but, I  
10      mean, I don't see LaFollette sitting there as being --  
11      I know you say everything is going good, but only  
12      having one dispatcher on duty at a time doesn't seem  
13      like a -- the optimum scenario; that maybe y'all could  
14      help each other and maybe not in the beginning merge  
15      the districts back or anything but maybe just try to  
16      work out and be in the same room as the same dispatch  
17      center or something and try to work it out together.

18                     Do you -- do you think that's a  
19      possibility?

20                     MR. BYRD: Yes, I -- like I say, I'm  
21      just -- I'm just chairman of the board.

22                     CHAIRMAN PORTER: You're the  
23      spokesman, I know. I understand. We're not shooting  
24      the messenger here. That's not the point.

25                     MR. BYRD: I can go back and ask, but

1 we feel that the citizens of LaFollette -- I live in  
2 the county. I don't live in the city of LaFollette.  
3 We feel that the citizens of LaFollette will suffer if  
4 we combine. And, again, we're not financially  
5 distressed. And I don't know whether it's bad  
6 management. I don't know anything about the county  
7 911. I don't know -- I know some people that works  
8 there.

9 But it may be a different problem that  
10 we can't solve. Because, like I say, I don't think  
11 that the money we get that -- to go into the county is  
12 going to solve their problem. I'm not speaking for  
13 them. It's just my personal opinion.

14 CHAIRMAN PORTER: But until you --  
15 until you sit down and talk with them, to try to see  
16 what could be done, I mean, it's kind of like you say,  
17 "Well, I'm not going to go fishing today because I'm  
18 not going to catch anything." Until you actually put  
19 the boat in the water and go out and cast a few times,  
20 you don't know what might be the possibilities.

21 MR. BYRD: Yes, sir, I understand  
22 that.

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I mean, I guess  
24 that's all -- I think that was Lynn's intention was is  
25 could we just get y'all to sit down and talk about it

1 and -- and, you know, help to -- and come back and --  
2 you know, and let us know -- once you've had your  
3 discussions, maybe make us a list of stuff that you  
4 say, well, you know, this could never work. This can  
5 work. We could do this. We can't do this. And just  
6 see if you could make any progress.

7 MR. BYRD: Okay, I'll do that.  
8 I'll -- I'll -- I'll ask our board to sit down, and  
9 I'll notify you in writing or whatever of what we  
10 decide. Okay?

11 MS. QUESTELL: May I interject  
12 something? This is where we were in June of 2006.  
13 Ms. Fox-Rogers said, "I will go back and ask my board,"  
14 and nothing happened. There was no talking. All there  
15 were were votes from your board saying, "No, we won't  
16 talk."

17 MR. BYRD: Okay. This --

18 MS. QUESTELL: Now, to just go back  
19 and ask your board if you want to talk again -- to me,  
20 that does not move this discussion forward one little  
21 bit.

22 MR. BYRD: Ms. Rogers is no longer on  
23 the board and it may -- you know, we've got some new  
24 board members. And it may be different now. You know,  
25 I --

1 MS. QUESTELL: Well, you just recently  
2 sent me a --

3 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hang on just a  
4 minute.

5 MR. BEEHAN: Can I make a suggestion?

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Sure.

7 MR. BEEHAN: What if we were to -- you  
8 know, I live very close to there. And since I have  
9 objections but I also like for people to talk, I would  
10 be willing to help, if that would be a concern.

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Are we -- let me ask  
12 counsel one thing.

13 Can more than one board member go, or  
14 does it have to be just one? Will we get in an  
15 issue --

16 MS. REED: I think the potential --  
17 there's a potential problem if more than one board  
18 member goes --

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: So --

20 MS. REED: -- if it's something that  
21 you-all might end up voting on.

22 Now, a board member and staff could  
23 go. That wouldn't be a problem.

24 CHAIRMAN PORTER: That's -- that was  
25 my question.

1                   And if Tom would be willing to do that  
2   and staff support him on that and then try to, you  
3   know, help y'all along, would that --

4                   MR. BEEHAN: Tell Shirley that I said  
5   that. Okay?

6                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

7                   MS. REED: And -- and the other -- the  
8   other idea is, you know, as you've mentioned before  
9   that this board has supported mediation before for  
10   other districts, if it would help to have a  
11   professional mediator. Do you think it's too early for  
12   that?

13                  MR. BEEHAN: I think it's too early.  
14   I think --

15                  MS. REED: Okay.

16                  MR. BEEHAN: -- the last time the  
17   issue we had, we were ready. They worked -- we had  
18   some leverage to get a mediator there. I don't know  
19   that we're there yet.

20                  MS. REED: Okay.

21                  MR. BEEHAN: But I -- I think that to  
22   sit down and talk, we probably -- we probably could do  
23   that.

24                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Yeah, and if we  
25   could get y'all to come to the table. Campbell County

1 has already agreed to come to the table with one of the  
2 board members and staff, come up and sit down at the  
3 meeting, discuss and go through all this. You know,  
4 maybe we could help you with some of the problems or,  
5 you know, they might give you -- you might get in the  
6 middle of the meeting and say, well, hey, this can't --  
7 we may have problems and this can't work. But at least  
8 we could -- we could say that we tried. And I think  
9 that's all we're asking right now is to at least try.

10 MR. BYRD: That's fair. And like I  
11 say, I'll go back to my board. And like I say, we have  
12 some new members. And I don't see no problem sitting  
13 down with them. That's --

14 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Talk doesn't cost  
15 you anything. It's just --

16 MR. BYRD: No. But like I say, you  
17 know, I'm just one vote on the --

18 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I understand.

19 MR. BYRD: But I will try my -- I'll  
20 guarantee you I'll try my hardest to --

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Ike.

22 MR. LOWRY: Do you -- do you have any  
23 plans -- or you may not even discuss this -- to move  
24 forward to get more than one dispatcher on at a time?  
25 And if you don't, how do you-all handle two calls



1       together or a cardiac arrest or a situation to where  
2       the one dispatcher is tied up?

3                       MR. BYRD:   Okay.   I'd like Mr. Widener  
4       to answer that.   He works in the police department at  
5       the -- close to the dispatch, and he'll -- if it's all  
6       right, he can answer it.

7                       MR. WIDENER:   There are times that we  
8       have two dispatchers on duty.   We have -- from the  
9       second shift, from four o'clock in the afternoon on  
10      through midnight, we do have -- four days a week we do  
11      have two dispatchers on duty.   The majority of the time  
12      we do have one dispatcher on duty.

13                      There are other people in the police  
14      department, which if we get more than one call, a  
15      person can -- can come into the dispatch room and  
16      answer -- assist the one dispatcher on duty.   We do  
17      have mechanisms in place for -- to help out the one  
18      dispatcher.

19                      MR. LOWRY:   I know just as a 911  
20      director, I would like to, hopefully, at some point we  
21      reach a stage across the state of Tennessee where we  
22      never have less than two -- two trained dispatchers on.

23                      Over the years, I know even up in our  
24      county, the sheriff's department used to -- used to  
25      have their police officers come in and assist when they

1       needed extra dispatch. But those guys aren't trained.  
2       All they know how to do is answer the telephone and  
3       talk on the radio, but they're not -- now dispatchers  
4       move way beyond, you know, just having somebody come by  
5       and sit down and answer the phone.

6                       And I was hoping that, you know, it  
7       sounds like you're -- maybe you are working in that  
8       direction to --

9                       MR. WIDENER: Yes, sir.

10                      MR. LOWRY: -- to keep two on all the  
11       time.

12                      MS. REED: And let me just say that  
13       given the statutory and regulatory rules regarding  
14       dispatcher training that there could be potential  
15       issues about having somebody answer 911 calls that's  
16       not a trained 911 dispatcher.

17                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: With the new law,  
18       that's right.

19                      Steve.

20                      MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I would like  
21       to ask the director a question.

22                      I know that you just enlightened us  
23       some on the staffing. My question is specifically --  
24       and I think you alluded to it earlier -- about your  
25       contingency plans if your PSAP were affected in

1 LaFollette. I assume that you do have some  
2 relationship with Campbell County --

3 MR. WIDENER: Yes, we do.

4 MR. SMITH: -- to -- and how would  
5 that -- how would that play out in an incident. It's  
6 my perception you're in a police department?

7 MR. WIDENER: Yes, sir.

8 MR. SMITH: So if you were isolated  
9 for some reason, how does the LaFollette citizen's  
10 call -- be answered by 911?

11 MR. WIDENER: Of course, we would  
12 reroute our 911 calls to the Campbell County center.  
13 If it would be down, too, we would reroute them to  
14 Claiborne County, which is an adjoining county.

15 MR. SMITH: So you have entered local  
16 agreements with those --

17 MR. WIDENER: Yes, sir, we did.

18 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Any other questions?

19 Do we need a -- do we need that in a  
20 motion on what we're going to do with the staff and  
21 Tom? Does that need to be in a motion?

22 MS. REED: I think that would be  
23 advisable.

24 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Does somebody want  
25 to make a motion to that effect, that we allow

1 Mr. Beehan and staff to go to LaFollette and meet with  
2 the LaFollette and Campbell County folks to try to work  
3 something out?

4 MS. COBB: Mr. Chairman, I move that  
5 we make the motion that Mr. Beehan and a member of the  
6 staff attend the next board meeting and help encourage  
7 their members to come before an open forum with the  
8 Campbell County folks.

9 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

10 (Inaudible remark.)

11 MS. COBB: I'm sorry?

12 (Inaudible remark.)

13 MR. BEEHAN: Yeah, that's -- let us  
14 set a meeting, not necessarily a board meeting, because  
15 they may have a board meeting and I may have a city  
16 council meeting that night.

17 MS. COBB: I understand. I believe,  
18 though, he said he was taking this before his next  
19 board meeting.

20 MR. BEEHAN: And what I wanted to do  
21 was to meet after -- you know, he'll go to them and  
22 then Campbell County and LaFollette together is what I  
23 wanted --

24 MS. COBB: I'm afraid that he'll go to  
25 his next board meeting and say, "The state is

1 encouraging us to sit down and talk to Campbell  
2 County," and they'll go, "No," and that's the end of  
3 it.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Again.

5 MS. COBB: Exactly.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: We have a motion.  
7 Let me see if I've got a second to that. I have a  
8 motion from Ms. Katrina. Do I have a second?

9 MR. TAYLOR: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Second from Mike.

11 Okay. Now, discussion.

12 Tom, do you want --

13 MR. BEEHAN: No. If it'll work, it'll  
14 work. If it doesn't, it doesn't.

15 MS. COBB: I'm just afraid there will  
16 be -- they will not allow you or need you if they've  
17 already said no.

18 MR. BEEHAN: Okay.

19 MS. COBB: And I only -- and please  
20 don't get me wrong. I'm not saying that you're not  
21 cordial folks. I just know at the last meeting that  
22 was the way it went. The representative went in, and  
23 there was a motion made. It was brought up, a motion  
24 was made, it was seconded, it was voted, and that was  
25 the end of it.

1                   MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. As I stated a  
2 little while ago, we have new board members now.

3                   MS. COBB: Right. And we hope that --

4                   MR. BYRD: And it may -- it may  
5 change.

6                   MS. COBB: I hope so.

7                   MR. BYRD: Like I say, I'll do  
8 everything I can do. I'm not -- I'll do anything I can  
9 do.

10                  MS. COBB: But like you said, one man  
11 can't work a miracle.

12                  MR. BYRD: Like I say, we have some  
13 new board members, and I think we might -- might can do  
14 it this time.

15                  MS. COBB: I hope so, sincerely.

16                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Other discussion?

17                               (No response.)

18                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: All in favor of the  
19 motion say "aye."

20                               (Board members respond  
21 "aye.")

22                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
23 sign.

24                               (No response.)

25                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

1                   Thank you, folks. Appreciate you  
2 coming down.

3                   MR. BYRD: Thank you.

4                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do we need a break?  
5 Let's take about -- let's take about a ten-minute  
6 break.

7                               (Recess taken from 11:10 a.m.  
8                               to 11:25 a.m.)

9                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. We'll come  
10 back to order.

11                   Are we recording okay?

12                   Okay. Our next item on the agenda is  
13 consider request by Grainger County ECD for extension  
14 of rate increase.

15                   MR. RICH: Mr. Chairman, before you  
16 start that, to kind of go along with the spirit of what  
17 you mentioned earlier about the staff in studying these  
18 rate increases, is there any way that maybe even  
19 starting with this meeting that we can have staff tell  
20 us if there's any findings with all these or group them  
21 into ones with findings or without findings and just go  
22 ahead and approve them as groups?

23                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: So you're saying  
24 instead of going through and reading all the stuff that  
25 we've already read in our packets anyway, staff just

1 tell us if there was any negative findings or what  
2 their recommendation was and then us -- if you want to  
3 go deeper, you can. If not --

4 MR. RICH: We could check and see if  
5 there is representatives here from --

6 MS. COBB: I second that.

7 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Would you make it as  
8 a motion or --

9 MR. RICH: I make it as a motion.

10 (Inaudible comments and  
11 laughter.)

12 MS. QUESTELL: I worry, because for  
13 every decision that the board makes there needs to be a  
14 record justifying it. And I fear that if we do it just  
15 like that, that there won't be a record to --

16 CHAIRMAN PORTER: So all this we got  
17 wouldn't be -- couldn't be entered into the record  
18 as --

19 MS. QUESTELL: No.

20 MR. RICH: Can we do it individually  
21 then without presentations, if there's not any  
22 findings?

23 MR. BEEHAN: What constitutes a  
24 record?

25 MS. QUESTELL: Evidence underlying the



1 decision that the board makes, a justification for the  
2 board's decision. If there's no findings, is that  
3 justification enough to --

4 MR. BEEHAN: And if you file the  
5 document, that creates the record.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: That's what I was  
7 saying. Could these not be entered as evidence in part  
8 of the --

9 MS. QUESTELL: Yes, they can.

10 CHAIRMAN PORTER: -- part of the --

11 MR. BILBREY: How long does it take to  
12 go through each one of these? We're not going to go  
13 into detail, are you?

14 MS. QUESTELL: No. The whole thing is  
15 about five minutes apiece.

16 MR. BILBREY: Well, why don't we go  
17 ahead and do what we're going to do. I would make that  
18 recommendation, instead of just doing a fell swoop.  
19 Let's go through and do what we were going to do, if  
20 it's not going to take over five minutes on each one.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: We haven't had --

22 MR. BILBREY: I hate to just say, you  
23 know, just go with it -- personally. It's dangerous.

24 CHAIRMAN PORTER: If we can do them in  
25 five minutes, I would. But I haven't seen us do one in

1 five minutes yet.

2 MR. BILBREY: Well, let's just try.

3 CHAIRMAN PORTER: We've got a motion  
4 and second on the floor, so let's -- we're gonna have  
5 to vote on that before we do anything.

6 MR. BEEHAN: What is the motion?

7 CHAIRMAN PORTER: The motion and  
8 second is for the staff to give us their recommendation  
9 on each one of these, and is there any negative  
10 findings on each one of the rate increases. I think we  
11 have five of them. And then the board can vote on each  
12 one of them if it's -- without going through their  
13 presentations, just taking what we've already been  
14 given. Because, basically, all they're doing is  
15 reading what they've already given us anyway.

16 MS. QUESTELL: May I say something? I  
17 misunderstood the motion. I withdraw all my comments.  
18 Sorry.

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Then I -- did  
20 I understand your motion right? Is that right,  
21 Freddie?

22 MR. RICH: Right.

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: So we would -- we  
24 would dispense of -- and I know these guys are going to  
25 hate it -- but Rex and Robert just sitting and reading

1 to us what we've already read already and the staff  
2 just give us their recommendation of -- of -- to extend  
3 it or not extend it and was there any negative or  
4 positive findings. And then we would make our decision  
5 then.

6 MS. COBB: And we could ask any  
7 questions if we had seen something that was --

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: You could ask any  
9 questions if you -- if you've seen something.

10 MR. BEEHAN: And they could give a  
11 summary -- here, you know, before us we have Grainger  
12 County, and they haven't been here in X number of years  
13 and they're asking for this request, and we find no  
14 findings.

15 CHAIRMAN PORTER: So it would just  
16 kind of speed the process, I guess would be --

17 MR. BILBREY: At least go through each  
18 one, you know, and allow people to ask or whatever.

19 MS. COBB: Yes, go through each one  
20 individually.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Does -- any  
22 other discussion on the motion? Does everybody  
23 understand what we're doing?

24 MR. BEEHAN: And we -- we -- just one  
25 thing. When we do these, will we need to request that

1       their document be filed as part of the public record on  
2       each one of them? Would that be a --

3                   MS. QUESTELL: It's already been given  
4       to the court reporter to put into the public record.

5                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Any other discussion  
6       or questions?

7                               (No response.)

8                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: All in favor say  
9       "aye."

10                              (Board members respond

11                              "aye.")

12                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
13       sign.

14                   MR. LOWRY: Do I need to abstain? I  
15       guess I do.

16                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Since you're --

17                   MS. QUESTELL: Yes.

18                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Let the record show  
19       that Mr. Lowry, being one of the rate increase request  
20       cases, is abstaining from the vote.

21                              Motion carried.

22                   Okay. The first one we have is  
23       Grainger County. And their current rate is \$1.50 and  
24       \$3 on business, and it was approved by us back in  
25       February 24th of '05. You have --

1                   Let the record show -- and would you  
2     state your name and position, for the record, from  
3     Grainger County.

4                   MR. HOLT: My name is Randy Holt. I'm  
5     the Executive Director of 911.

6                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Folks, I'm going to  
7     try to do this. And then if y'all don't like the way I  
8     do it, well, y'all tell me. Okay?

9                   MS. MASON: We will.

10                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: They're asking for  
11     an extension on their rate increase request of \$1.50  
12     and \$3. You have all the documents in front of you  
13     that's been provided by staff.

14                  What was the staff's recommendation on  
15     Grainger County?

16                  MR. HOLLAWAY: Well, we just found no  
17     reason not to grant the -- the increase.

18                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. The staff's  
19     recommendation is to grant the increase.

20                  Is there questions of board members of  
21     staff or of Randy from Grainger County?

22                  MR. BILBREY: Yes, not that I'm just  
23     trying to ask questions. But there's something, you  
24     know --

25                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Go ahead.

1                   MR. BILBREY:  -- they've got a  
2     projection here, number 14, projected budgets.  First  
3     off, this year -- this year '06 they have utilities at  
4     \$7,000, '07 and '08 they have utilities at \$1,000.  
5     What are they doing, just getting rid of utilities or  
6     what?

7                   MR. HOLT:  We had hoped to be moved by  
8     now.  We're moving into a new justice center that the  
9     county has built, and the county is going to provide us  
10    with a place with utilities furnished.

11                  MR. BILBREY:  So they're covering it?

12                  MR. HOLT:  Yes.

13                  MR. BILBREY:  So they're covering the  
14    utilities.

15                  MR. HOLT:  Yes.

16                  MR. BILBREY:  How about depreciation?

17                  MR. HOLT:  Unfortunately, we have had  
18    no moneys to budget for depreciation.  We have a  
19    \$50,000 CD in the bank for emergency equipment  
20    purchases, but for the last four years the  
21    administration -- there's no real nice words to use --  
22    but the previous county administration that we've  
23    worked under has forced us to use any and all fund  
24    balance each and every year to fund our operating  
25    budget.  We -- there's never been any money for it,

1       unfortunately.

2                   MR. BILBREY:   In 2005 you show \$56,000  
3       depreciation.   So that's . . .

4                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Other questions?

5                   One -- one, Randy, that's --

6                   MR. HOLT:   Yes, sir.

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   I know in the past,  
8       and I think it was -- was it -- it maybe was brought to  
9       this board or I read it somewhere, that you were having  
10      an issue with one of your cities.

11                  MR. HOLT:   Yes, sir, we have.

12                  CHAIRMAN PORTER:   With Bean Station.  
13      Has that been resolved?

14                  MR. HOLT:   No, sir, it has not.   I'm  
15      afraid we're hopelessly deadlocked.   The city of Bean  
16      Station is under the impression that -- and they've  
17      gone as far as hiring an attorney.   They're under the  
18      impression that 911 surcharge revenues from the  
19      telephone is to fund 911 and that they're not obligated  
20      to contribute anything for dispatch services toward  
21      911.

22                  We are a central dispatch.   We do  
23      direct dispatch for all emergency services within the  
24      district, which is the entire county.   We have three  
25      small cities in that county.   The other two cities

1 contribute without any problem. But the city of Bean  
2 Station is convinced, and also by their attorney, that  
3 they don't have to pay anything.

4 So we have currently sent them a  
5 cutoff letter effective thirty days from yesterday that  
6 they will start doing their own dispatch, and we will  
7 relay and transfer calls for service to them.

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. So y'all --  
9 your board is working with it then?

10 MR. HOLT: Yes, sir. We have -- we've  
11 negotiated this for nearly three years. It's been an  
12 ongoing fight.

13 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Other  
14 questions?

15 MR. MCLEOD: Mr. Chairman --

16 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Rob.

17 MR. MCLEOD: -- relative to the  
18 question of depreciation, Mr. Bilbrey is correct. When  
19 you do your budget, there should be an item there. And  
20 that's something that I'm going to be discussing with  
21 these directors, to make sure when you do your budget  
22 there is an item there. Because if you have it -- have  
23 it historically, it should be there to deal with. So I  
24 will be dealing with them with their budget issues.

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.



1 MR. MCLEOD: Thank you.

2 MR. HOLT: And we don't disagree. And  
3 hopefully this year's budget upcoming will -- I have a  
4 new county mayor, a new county commission. And  
5 hopefully we will get them to understand that and get  
6 their contribution up.

7 I do have a question for this board  
8 concerning this rate increase.

9 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay.

10 MR. HOLT: I know one of the board's  
11 strict policies that I agree with 100 percent is that  
12 you can't increase the phone rates and then cut local  
13 government contribution. And that's one of the  
14 arguments that I've used with the city of Bean Station.

15 Unfortunately, my county is, without  
16 question, in a deficit. The past administration on  
17 their way out, they passed a budget with a minimum  
18 \$300,000 deficit in it. They're asking all departments  
19 to take a 10 percent cut. That totally goes -- if we  
20 take a voluntary 10 percent cut, that totally goes  
21 against this board's policy.

22 Does this board have any suggestions  
23 for me to take back? I meet with them Monday night.  
24 Unfortunately, 911 is a very political issue. It  
25 doesn't need to be but, unfortunately, it is. And if I

1     get started on the wrong foot with the new  
2     administration, I go down the same road I've been on  
3     for the last four years. They truly have the deficit.  
4     It's not an imagination. It's a true deficit. That's  
5     what they're looking at -- that they must resolve by  
6     June 30th.

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Would it -- and I  
8     think this board has went on record and is pretty  
9     straightforward about counties doing that. And, you  
10    know, I've said, though, before, too, when you get in  
11    situations where the county has been paying a large sum  
12    of what 911 should have been paying before, you know,  
13    there comes the situation that the county's hurting  
14    that bad that -- I mean, I don't know what you do. It  
15    kind of -- the two start fighting at each other.

16                   So would it be too preliminary,  
17    though, since it's only in February and you don't do  
18    your budget until June that -- that we say or do  
19    something? I mean --

20                   MS. QUESTELL: I think it's a bit  
21    preliminary, but I also think that there are ways to  
22    negotiate through this, through in-kind service or  
23    other ways, so that even if it was a cut that there may  
24    a way to -- to --

25                   MR. HOLT: Well, I -- just for -- I'm

1 not going to voluntarily take the cut. I'm going to  
2 ask, first off, if you cut it this year can you add it  
3 back next year? You know, just because they're broke  
4 this year doesn't mean they're gonna be next year.  
5 They might find the moneys back.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Randy, why don't  
7 you -- why don't you work with Lynn and the staff over  
8 the next few months as that goes forward and let them  
9 see if they can help you along. And if it needs to be,  
10 it can always be brought back at a future board meeting  
11 if nothing can be worked out.

12 MS. REED: And one other issue is it  
13 looks like from your projection that you were showing  
14 an increased contribution from county government. Each  
15 year you were projecting an increase?

16 MR. HOLT: Yes.

17 MS. REED: Our policy talks about them  
18 not decreasing below what they contributed in the  
19 previous year. So if in asking you to cut the budget  
20 it doesn't cut you below what they contributed last  
21 year, then you're not in violation of the policy.

22 MR. HOLT: I -- I understand that.

23 MS. REED: Okay.

24 MR. HOLT: I do understand that, yes.

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Other questions?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: The recommendation  
3 of staff is that we approve the rate increase request  
4 for Grainger County. What's the will of the board?

5 MR. TAYLOR: So move.

6 MS. MASON: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion by  
8 Mr. Taylor, second by Barbara Ann. Motion and second  
9 that we approve Grainger County's rate increase  
10 request.

11 Is there discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, all in  
14 favor say "aye."

15 (Board members respond

16 "aye.")

17 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
18 sign.

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

21 Thank you, Randy. Appreciate it.

22 MR. HOLT: Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Let me ask the  
24 board, Did anybody have a problem with the way we did  
25 that one? Is that okay?

1 MR. TAYLOR: Keep on rockin'.

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. The next item  
3 on the agenda is the Hamblen County rate increase  
4 extension. The grandfather of 911, Mr. Jimmy Peoples,  
5 if he will come forward.

6 Would you state your name for the  
7 record, Jimmy?

8 MR. PEOPLES: Jimmy Peoples,  
9 Morristown, Tennessee, director of Morristown/Hamblen  
10 County 911.

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Thank you. We  
12 appreciate your coming.

13 With Hamblen County their current rate  
14 is a \$1.25 on residential and 2.25 on business. They  
15 came before us September 10th of 2004 for their rate  
16 increase extension. And they're here to ask for that  
17 to be extended.

18 Staff was -- what was the staff's  
19 recommendation for them?

20 MR. HOLLAWAY: We find no cause for  
21 them not to be granted the request.

22 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Staff's  
23 recommendation is that we approve the increase for  
24 Hamblen County.

25 Discussion and questions of the board?

1 MS. COBB: I have a question. Did you  
2 say that the current business rate was 2.25 or 2.75?

3 CHAIRMAN PORTER: 2.75.

4 MS. COBB: Thank you.

5 MR. BILBREY: I have a question.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Mr. Bilbrey.

7 MR. BILBREY: Robert --

8 MR. MCLEOD: Yes.

9 MR. BILBREY: -- are we happy and  
10 satisfied with the financial information, financial  
11 reports?

12 MR. MCLEOD: Yes, we are. One of the  
13 things that I'll be paying particular attention to is  
14 audit findings. And for the past three audits we  
15 noticed that there were some audit findings. But  
16 although the 2006 audit is not submitted, but I did get  
17 news that there was no audit finding here, so we're  
18 happy with that.

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Other questions?

20 MR. BEEHAN: We need a motion?

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, the  
22 floor is open for a motion.

23 MR. BEEHAN: Okay. I move that we  
24 accept the staff's recommendation on Hamblen County.

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Do we have a second?

1 MR. TAYLOR: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion by  
3 Mr. Beehan, second by Mr. Taylor that we approve the  
4 rate increase request for Hamblen County.

5 Any discussion?

6 MR. MCLEOD: That should be rate  
7 extension.

8 CHAIRMAN PORTER: What did I say?

9 MR. MCLEOD: Increase.

10 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Increase. I'm  
11 sorry. Thank you. Rate extension.

12 Hearing no discussion, all in favor  
13 say "aye."

14 (Board members respond  
15 "aye.")

16 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
17 sign.

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

20 The next one is Houston County. If  
21 the folks from Houston would come forward.

22 MR. MCLEOD: Please might I say here  
23 there's a package for Hamblen on your -- on your desk.  
24 Please replace the previous one with that current one.

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: If you would, state

1 your name and your position with 911 for the record.

2 MS. MCGRATH: Houston County 911. I'm  
3 the director. My name is Lisa McGrath.

4 MR. CLARK: Houston County Board,  
5 Chairman of the Board of 911, J. C. Clark.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: J. C. Clark. Okay.

7 Houston County's current rate is \$1.50  
8 for residential and \$3 for business. That rate was  
9 approved by the TECB on September 10th of 2004.  
10 They're here for an extension on that rate.

11 Rex, what was the staff's  
12 recommendation on Houston County?

13 MR. HOLLAWAY: Yeah, let me just make  
14 a comment too. Back in the original rate increase,  
15 they did note some equipment, as opposed to some of the  
16 other ones who were asking for operational-type funds.  
17 They did specify some equipment that would be purchased  
18 and did identify that most -- or all of that equipment  
19 was -- had been purchased prior to my visit. So we  
20 don't find any reason not to grant the request.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: You have heard the  
22 recommendation of staff. Is there questions or  
23 comments from the board members?

24 MR. SMITH: I'd just like to ask  
25 Robert if he has the information in looking at the



1       audit findings from the previous years?

2                   MR. MCLEOD:   Yes.   Again, the audit  
3       findings three prior years, to date, although  
4       unofficial, there's been no audit finding for 2006.  
5       And we're happy with that.

6                   MR. BILBREY:   You have a  
7       recommendation there saying, "The District should  
8       improve the accuracy in which it projects budgeted  
9       revenues, expend money only in accordance with its  
10      approved budget, and properly include depreciation  
11      expense as a budgetary line item."

12                   And how about the organizational  
13      structure, is anything recommended on it?   That's where  
14      all the findings and all the -- "Accounting duties were  
15      not adequately segregated among personnel of the  
16      District" -- every year.

17                   MR. MCLEOD:   What I did -- what I did,  
18      because I didn't have the official audited report, I  
19      got news from her this morning that there was no  
20      finding, meaning no finding that -- those prior ones  
21      that would have been taken for granted are being  
22      reconciled -- taken care of.

23                   But what I will do personally, I will  
24      make sure as soon as I get a copy, I will brief you on  
25      it.

1                   MR. BILBREY:  Would you find out how  
2   that was taken care of?

3                   MR. MCLEOD:  Yes, I will.  Thank you.

4                   MR. BILBREY:  How they managed to --

5                   MR. MCLEOD:  Thank you, sir.

6                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Other questions?

7                               (No response.)

8                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Hearing none, you've  
9   heard the recommendation of staff.  What's the will of  
10   the board?

11                   MS. COBB:  I so move.

12                   MS. MASON:  Second.

13                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Ms. Katrina and  
14   Carolann that we approve Houston County's rate  
15   increase -- or extension.

16                   Any discussion?

17                               (No response.)

18                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Hearing none, all in  
19   favor say "aye."

20                               (Board members respond  
21                               "aye.")

22                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  All opposed, like  
23   sign.

24                               (No response.)

25                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:  Motion carried.

1 Thank you. We appreciate you coming.

2 MS. MCGRATH: Thank you. We

3 appreciate it.

4 MR. CLARK: Thank you very much.

5 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Oh, here's a good  
6 one. Let the record show that Mr. Lowry is excusing  
7 himself. And the rate increase extension request from  
8 Sullivan County, which he is the director of, is the  
9 next on the agenda.

10 MR. TAYLOR: I think we ought to do  
11 this one in long form, Mr. Chairman.

12 MR. LOWRY: Long form?

13 MR. TAYLOR: Do long form.

14 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Would you state your  
15 name for the record, Mr. Lowry?

16 MR. LOWRY: Ike Lowry, Director of  
17 Sullivan County Emergency Communications District,  
18 Sullivan County, Tennessee.

19 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Sullivan County's  
20 current rate is a dollar and a half for residential and  
21 three dollars for business. And that was approved by  
22 the TECB back in February the 17th of '05. They're  
23 here for an extension.

24 What's the recommendation of staff,  
25 Rex?

1                   MR. HOLLAWAY: As with Houston, they  
2 also indicated in their original rate increase  
3 application that they would purchase some new  
4 equipment. And in my last visit there, they did  
5 purchase a CML PCS 1000 controller along with some  
6 other mapping equipment and stuff. So we find no  
7 reason not to grant Sullivan County the rate extension.

8                   MS. REED: Can I make a statement  
9 too --

10                  MR. HOLLAWAY: Yes.

11                  MS. REED: -- on this one?

12                  Because I was involved in reviewing  
13 this, and Mr. Lowry provided me some additional  
14 information. And I just wanted to point out that he  
15 was within less than \$400 difference from his five-year  
16 projected budget, which we thought was pretty  
17 incredible on his revenue.

18                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Wow. They're really  
19 blowing you up, Ike. That's -- his head is a little  
20 big.

21                  MR. BILBREY: I think they're looking  
22 for a raise maybe.

23                  MR. LOWRY: I'd like to point out to  
24 Mr. Bilbrey I got that second race and the duties fixed  
25 too.

1                   MR. MCLEOD: I was going to comment on  
2     that.

3                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Any -- any questions  
4     of Mr. Lowry or of staff about Sullivan County?

5                   MR. BEEHAN: I would move we approve  
6     the extension of Sullivan County.

7                   MR. SMITH: Second.

8                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: I've got -- I'm  
9     gonna take Tom's motion, and I'm gonna take Steve's  
10    second. I had two motions at the same time.

11                   We have a motion from Mr. Beehan, a  
12    second from Mr. Smith that we approve Sullivan County's  
13    extension.

14                   Any discussion?

15                                 (No response.)

16                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, all in  
17    favor say "aye."

18                                 (Board members respond

19                                 "aye.")

20                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
21    sign.

22                                 (No response.)

23                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

24                   MR. LOWRY: Thank you.

25                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Mr. Lowry, you can

1       come back and take your seat.

2                       Let the record show Mr. Lowry is back  
3       with us on the board.

4                       The final item on the agenda is White  
5       County.

6                       Wayne, if you would come forward.  
7       Would you state your name for the record, please.

8                       MR. SHERRELL: David Wayne Sherrell,  
9       Executive Director, White County 911.

10                      MR. DENTON: Jerry Denton, chairman of  
11       the 911 board.

12                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: Thank you.  
13       Appreciate you both coming.

14                      White County's current rate is \$1.50  
15       for residential. Business is \$3. Their rate was  
16       approved back in October of 2001, and they are here for  
17       another extension.

18                      Rex, what is the recommendation of  
19       staff?

20                      MR. HOLLAWAY: The only thing that  
21       came up in the original rate increase was an issue  
22       about the possibility of moving to a new facility, and  
23       they may want to address that. But other than that, we  
24       find no reason not to grant the increase -- I mean the  
25       extension.

1                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: The staff's  
2 recommendation is to grant the increase. Do y'all want  
3 to give us an update? I know that there's been some  
4 talks with y'all. Are y'all still looking at moving to  
5 a new facility?

6                   MR. SHERRELL: It's been discussed,  
7 and the chairman of the board has appointed a building  
8 and equipment committee. We've got plans with the old  
9 jail there that the city mayor had sent up to us that  
10 the committee is considering and other alternatives.

11                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: So y'all are  
12 actively looking at that currently then?

13                  MR. DENTON: Yes, sir.

14                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Questions from the  
15 board members of staff or the White County folks?

16                  MR. MCLEOD: On -- on the budgeted  
17 portion of it there was a question about the  
18 depreciation, and I have discussed this with  
19 Mr. Sherrell, and we are about to correct that number.

20                         If you look at the depreciation,  
21 number 19 was overstated. And what happened is that  
22 the previous director picked up the wrong number,  
23 per se, but it was too late to do the correction. So I  
24 will have it corrected right away.

25                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Thank you.

1 Any questions?

2 MR. HOLLAWAY: I might add, too, that  
3 they have gone through a significant upgrade in  
4 equipment, as you're probably aware of, a new 911  
5 controller and other equipment.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Yeah, they did a  
7 good job.

8 I will say for White County, and I  
9 know Dave would state this, too, our homeland security  
10 region bought two mobile 911 trailers, and they  
11 actually moved out into the trailer for several weeks  
12 while their dispatch was being renovated, which I think  
13 made a big difference, which I think supports that  
14 theory that we had talked about at previous board  
15 meetings of having several of those across the state.  
16 And I think we're seeing more and more of that  
17 happening. In case we have major disasters or stuff  
18 like this, that you can still operate.

19 MR. HOLLAWAY: And I was going to say  
20 it's an excellent way to exercise those things, because  
21 a lot of times they just tend to sit and --

22 CHAIRMAN PORTER: We learned a lot of  
23 lessons that -- that you'd rather learn in a situation  
24 like that than you would in a real-life disaster.

25 Hearing no questions, you've heard the



1 will of the -- or the will -- you've heard the  
2 recommendation of staff on White County. What's the  
3 will of the board?

4 MR. TAYLOR: Move to approve.

5 MS. COBB: Second.

6 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion by  
7 Mr. Taylor, second by Ms. Cobb that we approve White  
8 County's rate extension.

9 Is there discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Hearing none, all in  
12 favor say "aye."

13 (Board members respond

14 "aye.")

15 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
16 sign.

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Motion carried.

19 Thanks, guys. Appreciate y'all  
20 coming.

21 Robert, do you have something you want  
22 to say?

23 MR. MCLEOD: I have a comment here,  
24 Mr. Chairman, that although my -- my name is written on  
25 these documents, I must acknowledge the hard work of

1 Mr. Jim Barnes and Mr. Burgess for helping me produce  
2 these documents.

3 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Thank you.

4 Appreciate that.

5 I want to make a correction, too, and  
6 I apologize. I think I called Carolann "Barbara Ann" a  
7 while ago. And I apologize. I -- that -- that --

8 MS. MASON: I'll answer to anything.  
9 That's okay.

10 CHAIRMAN PORTER: I wanted to make  
11 sure I --

12 MR. BEEHAN: You have to sing the song  
13 now.

14 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Oh, okay. Y'all  
15 don't want to do -- y'all don't want me to do that.

16 MR. SHERRELL: Are you through,  
17 Mr. Porter?

18 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Yes. Thank you for  
19 coming. Appreciate it.

20 MR. SHERRELL: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN PORTER: We need to look at  
22 board meetings. We have I think a board meeting  
23 scheduled for April the 19th.

24 MS. QUESTELL: It's not scheduled.

25 CHAIRMAN PORTER: It's not scheduled.

1       Okay.

2                       The possibility of a board meeting  
3       then. I had it on my calendar already.

4                       April 19th, May the 10th, May the  
5       24th, or June the 21st.

6                       Isn't the earthquake thing going on,  
7       Rex, June the 21st? So we would probably not want to  
8       meet on that date. I guess I'd ask --

9                       MS. COBB: I'm sorry. I was just  
10       going to say, could we possibly meet May 10th and split  
11       the difference?

12                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: Well, I -- that's  
13       what I was kind of thinking. Would we be able to have  
14       a good agenda by April 19th? Would you have enough on  
15       the agenda to have a meeting that soon, or not?

16                      MS. QUESTELL: Well, we wouldn't have  
17       a whole lot on the agenda. I kind of just did that in  
18       an abundance of caution, in case there was something  
19       the board needed to do with the legislature in session.

20                      But, you know, we could like do two,  
21       and if we didn't have enough for --

22                      CHAIRMAN PORTER: That's what I would  
23       say.

24                      MS. QUESTELL: -- for a full board  
25       meeting, I could just let you know. But we'd have it

1       scheduled just in case.

2                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   Is May 10th -- does  
3       that look -- is that a good day?   Bad day?

4                   MR. TAYLOR:   That's bad for me, but  
5       that's all right.

6                   MS. COBB:   Are you wanting -- Lynn,  
7       are you pushing for us to do it on April 19th instead  
8       of May 10th?

9                   MS. QUESTELL:   No.   I guess in an  
10       ideal world what I would be suggesting is that we kind  
11       of tentatively hold April 19th as a date that we could  
12       have a meeting if something came up that we needed your  
13       instruction on.   And if -- if nothing came up, then we  
14       would plan on it -- on whatever later date that you set  
15       up.   But I just -- I want us to be prepared in case the  
16       board needs to weigh in on something.

17                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   What about May the  
18       24th?   Is that better or worse?

19                   MR. TAYLOR:   May 24th is better for  
20       me.

21                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:   Oh, it's  
22       better.

23                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:   It's better.

24                   CHAIRMAN PORTER:   So how about we do  
25       this, if that's agreeable with everybody, that we hold

1 open April the 19th as a board meeting. If legislation  
2 goes good and we don't have a very big agenda built up,  
3 then we would cancel that meeting and meet on May the  
4 24th. Is that agreeable to everybody?

5 MR. TAYLOR: That would be super.

6 MS. QUESTELL: Now, what that means is  
7 if we only have one meeting and we continue with these  
8 rate increases, that y'all are going to hear like nine  
9 of them in one sitting. So --

10 MR. BEEHAN: Are they increases or  
11 extensions?

12 MS. QUESTELL: Extensions, only  
13 extensions.

14 MR. BEEHAN: We can do them like this.

15 MS. QUESTELL: Okay.

16 CHAIRMAN PORTER: It worked pretty  
17 good, didn't it, today?

18 Anything else that needs to come  
19 before the TECB?

20 MR. LOWRY: Just for information,  
21 March 27th is the Tennessee Emergency Number  
22 Association Day on the Hill meeting or gathering or  
23 whatever you --

24 CHAIRMAN PORTER: It would be very  
25 important for everybody to attend as much as possible.

1                   MR. LOWRY: Particularly in lieu of  
2 any legislation that needs to be supported or not  
3 supported.

4                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: NENA, do we know  
5 NENA dates?

6                   MS. QUESTELL: Yes.

7                   CHAIRMAN PORTER: Does somebody want  
8 to give those?

9                   MS. QUESTELL: The NENA 911 on the  
10 Hill in D.C. is from March 12th through March 15th.  
11 Actually on the hill on the 14th.

12                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: That's in March  
13 whenever NENA goes to Washington. And then the NENA  
14 conference is in June?

15                  MR. HOLLAWAY: June 10th and the next  
16 five days after that, or four days.

17                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Okay. Any other  
18 announcements or anything we need to make?

19                               (No response.)

20                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Great meeting,  
21 folks. Do I have a motion to adjourn?

22                  MR. TAYLOR: So move.

23                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: Second?

24                  MR. SMITH: Second.

25                  CHAIRMAN PORTER: All in favor say

1 "aye."

2 (Board members respond

3 "aye.")

4 CHAIRMAN PORTER: All opposed, like  
5 sign.

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN PORTER: Have a safe trip  
8 home.

9 (Proceedings adjourned at  
10 11:55 a.m.)

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## 1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF TENNESSEE )

3 COUNTY OF DAVIDSON )

4 I, Patricia W. Smith, Registered  
5 Professional Reporter, with offices in Nashville,  
6 Tennessee, hereby certify that I reported the foregoing  
7 proceedings at the time and place set forth in the  
8 caption thereof; that the proceedings were  
9 stenographically reported by me; and that the foregoing  
10 proceedings constitute a true and correct transcript of  
11 said proceedings to the best of my ability.

12 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not  
13 related to any of the parties named herein, nor their  
14 counsel, and have no interest, financial or otherwise,  
15 in the outcome or events of this action.

16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
17 affixed my official signature and seal of office this  
18 12th day of March, 2007.

19  
20  
21  

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22 PATRICIA W. SMITH, REGISTERED  
23 PROFESSIONAL REPORTER AND NOTARY  
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25 My Commission Expires:  
July 19, 2008